

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EMMANUEL CHURCH

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Emmanuel Church is celebrating its 50th anniversary; and

Whereas, the congregation of Emmanuel Church continue to be active, enthusiastic members of our community; and

Whereas, the 50th anniversary of Emmanuel Church has drawn new and old congregation members to New Philadelphia, Ohio to celebrate the life of their church; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend Emmanuel Church and its congregation for their unwavering commitment, dedication and contributions to their community and country in recognition of their 50 years.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE SENATOR BILL JENNER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor what would have been the 100th birthday of a great Hoosier legislator and American patriot, Senator William Jenner.

Born in Crawford County, Indiana, Senator Jenner graduated with a law degree from Indiana University in 1930 and began a career practicing law in Paoli, Indiana. In the meantime, he quickly rose through the ranks of Indiana politicians, becoming Majority Leader and President Pro Tempore of the Indiana State Senate less than ten years after graduating from college. In a selfless act that placed the defense of freedom above political ambition, Senator Jenner resigned his seat in the Indiana Senate to serve as a captain in the Army Air Corps during World War II.

In 1944, Senator Jenner returned from service overseas to fill a vacancy in the U.S. Senate resulting from the death of Frederick Van Nuys. He would later be elected for two complete terms, serving until 1959.

As chair of the Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Jenner spent much of his time in the Senate promoting American values while guarding against the spread of communist ideals during a fragile period of American history. A conservative and a proponent of equality, Senator Jenner laid out a plan that led to the inclusion of all races within the Republican Party.

During his tenure as a politician, Senator Jenner believed in the ideals of the Senate as

a forum for free-flowing discussion and a body that protected the viewpoints of the minority. As he famously said on January 4th, 1957, "Jesus Christ was killed by a majority; Columbus was smeared; and Christians have been tortured. Had the United States Senate existed during those trying times, I am sure these people would have found an advocate. No where else can any political, social, or religious group, finding itself under sustained attack, receive a better refuge."

Following his retirement from the Senate, Jenner returned to law practice in Bedford, Indiana until his death in 1985 at the age of seventy-six. Gone but not forgotten, Madam Speaker, the legacy of this great Hoosier legislator lives on as a model of courage and patriotism for all members of Congress and indeed, all Americans as well.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, today, I have the honor of recognizing the 40th anniversary of Special Olympics. For four decades Special Olympics has been encouraging and empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become active and physically fit in athletics. Special Olympics have dedicated its efforts to provide productive and respected members of society through sports training and competition. With 30 Olympic-type summer and winter sports, Special Olympics offer children and adults with intellectual disabilities year round training.

Special Olympics currently serve 2.5 million people with intellectual disabilities in over 180 countries. Special Olympics give these individuals the gift of friendship and allow each of them to discover a talent of their own. One of Special Olympics main goals is to empower individuals with intellectual disabilities to realize their full potential and become productive members of their families and their communities.

As the father of a young man with Down syndrome who competes in Special Olympics, I have learned firsthand the endearing and valuable contributions Special Olympics have on these individuals. Special Olympics develop improved physical fitness and motor skills, greater self-confidence and a more positive self-image. Additionally, Special Olympics allow for individuals to grow socially and mentally through their activities, while exhibiting endless enthusiasm and joy throughout the games.

I am inspired by the dedication and enthusiasm for life that these individuals bring to Special Olympics. Once again, it is an honor to recognize the 40th anniversary of Special Olympics. Congratulations to all of the athletes who have competed over the past 40 years.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF AUDREY SUSANNE CHAPMAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Audrey Susanne Chapman, and in recognition of her tremendous contributions to the community through her writing and journalism.

Audrey graduated from Hudson High School in 1983 and went on to earn her degree in journalism from Ohio University in 1987. Her exceptional writing talents led her to work in several local publishing companies including Penton Publishing and Cleveland Magazine. Audrey's contributions to Cleveland Magazine received honors from the Society of Professional Journalists of the Cleveland Press Club.

Audrey is survived by her mother, Rumrill Chapman, her two sisters, Heather Chapman and Lesley Chapman and her brother, Brian Chapman. She will be remembered not only for her work as a gifted writer and journalist, but also for her kindness and ability to create connections with everyone she met.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembrance of Audrey Susanne Chapman, and in recognition of her dedication to her work, the community, and her family.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANTONIO YSURA

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Antonio Ysura, winner of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) Young Entrepreneur Awards.

Antonio encompasses the goal of the NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation (YEF) which encourages young people to consider careers in small business and entrepreneurship and to help further the education of these students. Antonio started his own photography business in Boise. In light of his successful business operation he was awarded a scholarship for higher education. He is only one of 416 high school seniors across the country to receive this distinguished award.

YEF has encouraged and supported the entrepreneurial dreams of 1,900 students with scholarships totaling \$2,200,000. I commend NFIB and YEF for this outstanding accomplishment and commitment to our youth.

I am honored to take this opportunity to congratulate a leader of our next generation of small business owners. Antonio, I wish you much success in your future endeavors.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

THE DAILY 45: MAY EBONY AND
HER MOTHER REST IN PEACE

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, every day, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. The indiscriminate level of violence knows no bounds as I mark the passing of Miss Ebony Jefferson, 31, who was shot to death 48 hours ago.

Ebony's death violates all standards of human decency. She was, literally, on the porch of her aunt's home, in a quiet Cleveland neighborhood, where she and her family were grieving the death of her mother, 55-year-old Lorena Jefferson, who died last Sunday of breast cancer.

In a brief moment of respite, while sharing a laugh and playing cards to fight back the tears, early Tuesday evening a man dressed in black, carrying a gun, threatened Ebony and her family, telling them to lay on the floor. Bravely, some of her family members told the assailant to leave and, briefly, he did. But, in a senseless instant, he turned around and fired nine shots, one of which struck Ebony. She died a short time later at a local hospital.

Ebony was a caring health care worker who was grieving the loss of her mother. She and her mother will now be buried, together, this Saturday while the gunman remains at large.

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will we say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
KARISSA MARTIN FOR WINNING
THE TITLE OF MISS OHIO 2008

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Karissa Martin was crowned Miss Ohio 2008; and

Whereas, Ms. Martin won a talent preliminary award and a swimsuit preliminary award at the Miss Ohio contest; and

Whereas, Karissa Martin will use her new title to raise skin cancer awareness; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Miss Ohio 2008, Karissa Martin for her contributions to her community and country.

MEDICARE IMPROVEMENT FOR PA-
TIENTS AND PROVIDERS ACT OF
2008

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to President Bush's veto of H.R.

6331. This legislation is a critical bill to ensure that our seniors have access to health care and so I will again vote in its favor. I am disappointed with the President's decision and am compelled to make a stand in support of our seniors.

By the nature of our democratic process, almost no bill considered in Congress is perfect, and H.R. 6331 is no exception. We cannot, however, "let the perfect be the enemy of the good." H.R. 6331 is a good compromise that will help preserve our health care delivery system. This bill will increase investment in preventive and quality care, expand programs in rural communities, expand the patient centered medical home, and begin to transform the health care delivery system through the adoption of electronic prescribing. This investment will yield generations of healthier adults, improved quality of life, and long-term health care savings.

One of the most important pieces of this bill is the physician reimbursement rate fix—which is really an access issue. Perhaps the most critical situation facing our seniors in the coming decades will be access to physicians. Due to the paltry reimbursement rates for their services, more and more doctors are unable to take on new Medicare patients, or even serve any Medicare patients. They simply cannot pay the bills. The formula that CMS uses to determine the reimbursement for physician services is not based on cost accounting standards. No one seems to understand why CMS adopted this formula decades ago, yet no one at the agency seems willing to overhaul it. The result is decreasing reimbursement for physicians. When they cannot cover their own costs, they have to stop seeing Medicare patients and this is a grave concern. We are not only concerned that our parents will not be able to see a physician when in need, but also that there won't be adequate health care access when the baby boomers and our children become Medicare eligible. I'm for a permanent fix, which this House voted for in 2004 as part of the Medicare Modernization Act before the Senate stripped it, but until we get there, preventing the annual cuts must be our priority. This bill prevents a reimbursement rate cut and helps physicians continue to see their senior patients.

I strongly disagree with the President—and even my own leadership—on his position. Access to healthcare is one of the greatest issues facing our seniors—along with rising fuel costs—and it is irresponsible to stand in the way of providing that access. I urge my colleagues to join me in overriding the veto of H.R. 6331.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 5959 INTELLIGENCE AU-
THORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL
YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2008

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I thank Chairman REYES and Ranking Member HOEKSTRA for their work on this bill and their commitment to protecting the security of our Nation.

Madam Speaker, recently Americans have read media reports that taxpayer funds are

being used to destabilize or overthrow governments of other countries.

Regardless of the truth of these reports, the perception that they may be true undermines public confidence in U.S. foreign policy and harms the reputation of the U.S. abroad.

That is why I offered an amendment to the bill providing that the United States will not engage in covert activities to undermine or overthrow member nations of the U.N., including democratically elected governments. Such conduct is antithetical to democracy and the rule of law.

Unfortunately, my amendment was not made in order. Consequently, we lost an opportunity to repair some of the damage done to America's international reputation by the conduct of this Administration during the last seven years.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE INTEGRATION OF
THE UNITED STATES ARMED
FORCES

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 60th anniversary of the integration of the United States Armed Forces.

On July 26, 1948, President Harry Truman signed Executive Order 9981 which stated that the Armed Services must extend equal opportunity to everyone who served in the military. Although the true fulfillment of this vision finally occurred 15 years after President Truman signed this Executive Order, July 26, 1948 remains a defining moment in our Nation's history because the leader of the Free World made it known that a united Nation needed a united military.

This extraordinary document was signed shortly after World War II when American troops and their allies restored hope, justice, and life to millions of people who were suffering under horrific dictatorship and terror. In the deadliest and most wide spread war in human history, the world had seen the valor, fortitude, and humility of the American military. Upon returning home, however, more than 400,000 African American World War II veterans were faced with the bitter reminder that they did not receive equal rights in the military in which they served and in the country that they loved.

Mr. Speaker, from the Revolutionary War to the present wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, blacks and other people of color have fought and died. In the years prior to desegregation, many black soldiers fought with the hope that if they demonstrated their bravery and dedication in battle, they could obtain the respect and opportunity in the military and civilian sector. Unfortunately, formal and informal practices of segregation and discrimination in the military and in our country prevented this hope from becoming and reality.

In the years leading to an unprecedented time of prosperity, growth, and development in the United States, President Truman dared to sign a document that would position our military and country in a new direction. At last, America would have laws that would ensure

that people would have the right to serve their country and be treated equally regardless of their race, color, religion, or national origin.

Sixty years after Executive Order 9981 was signed and 45 years after the proclamations in this document were implemented, the U.S. military now includes the full spectrum of our great country. More than 1.4 million men and women make up America's active and reserve forces. They can serve with the knowledge that there are laws to ensure that they receive the same rights and liberties that they fought to secure for others.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the initial call to integrate our nation's Armed Forces, we must remember to continue the legacy of eliminating discrimination and bigotry from the institutions that represent our country and make it great. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this resolution and demonstrate our continued commitment to laws that promote liberty, equality and justice in every sector of our society.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SANCTUARY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2008

HON. MADELINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have introduced a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, which was first enacted by the 92nd Congress as Title III of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-532).

The Nation's first national marine sanctuary was designated in 1975 off the Outer Banks of North Carolina to protect the wreck of a famous Civil War ironclad, the U.S.S. *Monitor*. Since then, 12 other national marine sanctuaries and one national marine monument have been designated. The various sites, ranging from Fagatele Bay in American Samoa to Thunder Bay in Lake Huron, protect deep ocean gardens, near shore coral reefs, whale migration corridors, deep sea canyons, and underwater archeological sites.

These marine sites are managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and activities like shipping, commercial and recreational fishing, boating, scuba diving, and marine tourism are allowed within such sites where determined to be compatible with resource protection. However, drilling, mining, dredging, dumping waste and removing artifacts are generally prohibited in the sanctuaries and considered to be activities inconsistent with the purposes of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act.

Congress last reauthorized the National Marine Sanctuaries Act in 2000 with the passage of the National Marine Sanctuaries Amendments Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-513). The overall purpose of the legislation enacted in 2000 was to reauthorize the National Marine Sanctuaries Act through fiscal year 2005 and to make substantive changes to the management of existing sanctuaries and the designation of additional marine sanctuaries.

The Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans has held two oversight hearings to date in this Congress to receive testimony

from stakeholders regarding reauthorization of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act. The Subcommittee first convened for this purpose at a field hearing in Santa Barbara, California on November 3, 2007, and more recently in Washington, DC on June 18, 2008. It is generally agreed that the national marine sanctuaries are fulfilling statutory set missions to protect nationally significant areas of the marine environment and are collectively serving as a useful model demonstrating ecosystem-based management. However, since Congress last reauthorized the Act several concerns have emerged and have been raised by stakeholders and the Administration. These issues have been examined by the Subcommittee during both of its oversight hearings. The legislation I have introduced today attempts to address many of these issues.

First, over the past decade the science and theory behind the concept of marine protected areas and marine reserves (MPAs) has developed, and the use of MPAs as a management tool is much more prevalent today than it was at the time the National Marine Sanctuaries Act was last reauthorized. Supporters of the concept consider the existing statutory limitation on new sanctuary designations at odds with current thinking and practice, as well as contrary to the purposes of the Act. The bill I have introduced today, the Sanctuary Enhancement Act of 2008, would repeal the limitation on new sanctuary designations and require the Secretary of Commerce to develop a site selection report for potential new sanctuaries.

Second, despite NOAA's best intentions, the agency has been unable to complete management plan reviews for all sanctuaries within the statutorily-required 5-year period, resulting in a virtually never-ending planning cycle. Furthermore, critics question whether the statutory established timeframe allows adequate time for NOAA to properly evaluate the effectiveness of management plans. In order to allow adequate time for quality reviews, under the Sanctuary Enhancement Act the first management plan review timeframe would be expanded from 5 years to 7 years, and the period for subsequent reviews would be expanded to 10 years.

Another area of focus has been on regulating fishing within marine sanctuaries. Section 304(a)(5) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act formally incorporates Regional Fisheries Management Councils into the process for developing fishing regulations within marine sanctuaries. Various interests believe there continues to be a lack of clarity with respect to such authorities and such lack of clarity has created tensions within some sectors of the fishing community. In an effort to reduce some of that tension, the Sanctuary Enhancement Act would authorize the Secretary to include fishing regulations in the designation documents if the regulations are compatible with the purposes of the sanctuary, the mission of the entire system of sanctuaries and the National Marine Sanctuaries Act. The Sanctuary Enhancement Act also clarifies the role and actions of the Secretary in approving or disapproving draft fishing regulations requested from Regional Fishery Management Councils.

Finally, critics contend that the text of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act is misinterpreted and that NOAA's implementation of the Act as a "multiple-use" authority is misguided.

Such critics advocate that the Act be amended to prioritize the protective missions of the sanctuaries and to strengthen the Act in comparison to other laws that authorize activities in the marine environment. To resolve this problem, the Sanctuary Enhancement Act would formally establish a National Marine Sanctuary System and insert a mission statement for the System to "protect, conserve, preserve, restore and recover the biodiversity, ecological integrity, and cultural legacy of the living and nonliving resources within the system for the benefit of present and future generations."

I believe the bill I have introduced today enhances the network of sanctuaries by establishing a unified structure and system for their management and by amending the National Marine Sanctuaries Act to address a variety of concerns raised by stakeholders since its last reauthorization. I am joined today in introducing this bill by Ms. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, a co-chair of the National Marine Sanctuaries Caucus, and ten other colleagues, including Mr. KILDEE, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE of the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans. I invite all of my colleagues to join us in the effort to reauthorize and strengthen this essential marine conservation law. Working together we can strive to leave our children and grandchildren a sanctuary system that can grow as a vibrant, healthy and sound system of marine environments.

HONORING FORMER MAYOR BOB JEHN OF CLOVERDALE, CALIFORNIA

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, together with my colleague MIKE THOMPSON, I rise today to recognize my good friend, Bob Jehn, who retired from public office on July 4, 2008 after serving 14 years on the city council of Cloverdale, California.

During Mr. Jehn's tenure on the council, he served four times as its mayor. He was also a three-term member of the board of directors on the League of California Cities, past chairman and the longest serving member of the Sonoma County Transportation Authority, past chairman and member of the North Coast Rail Authority and chairman and member of the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit Authority.

He was the driving force behind the establishment of Cloverdale River Park, a 70-acre public access area along the Russian River, and led the successful effort to secure a permanent conservation easement for 250 acres of hillside overlooking Cloverdale.

His other civic duties included service on the Cloverdale Planning Commission and former chair of the Cloverdale Economic Development Commission. He was an active member of the Cloverdale Rotary Club, the Cloverdale Chamber of Commerce, the Cloverdale Historical Society and the North Coast Association of Health Underwriters. He was honored by his community as volunteer of the year in 1994.

Mr. Jehn and his wife of 30 years, Nancy, moved to California in 1977 and to Cloverdale

in 1990. He is a graduate of the University of Texas and a Navy veteran, serving aboard the USS *Force*, MSO 445, an ocean mine sweeper, from June 1963 through May 1965.

Mr. Jehn plans to devote his time and his energies to his health insurance business and to his family, focusing on and doting on his three grandchildren, Grace, 8, Billy, 6 and Sophia, 3.

Madam Speaker, Bob Jehn, has been an exceptional public servant. He has served the people of Cloverdale and Sonoma County well and it is fitting at this time that we honor him today and wish him well as he enters the next phase of his life.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 5959) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes:

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Chairman, I support this bipartisan bill, which is designed to strengthen and improve America's intelligence capabilities.

The bill strengthens intelligence by adding funding to enhance human intelligence collection, strengthening research and development in advanced technologies, and improving signals intelligence. Importantly, the bill also includes strong provisions to promote accountability, including prohibiting the use of CIA contractors to interrogate detainees, requiring a report on compliance with the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005, and creating a statutory, Senate-confirmed Inspector General for the entire Intelligence community.

I am disappointed in what the bill doesn't include—a provision included in last year's authorization bill that would have prohibited interrogation techniques not authorized by the Army Field Manual on Interrogation.

Despite White House claims that the United States does not torture prisoners, we continue to learn about Administration actions that seem to condone the use of coercive techniques in questioning prisoners.

Last year, we learned about a classified Justice Department memo from February 2005 allowing waterboarding and other coercive techniques. Then there was the Executive Order signed last year that effectively opened a loophole for the CIA to practice interrogation techniques that go beyond those allowed by the U.S. military.

Reports of destroyed interrogation tapes showing CIA operatives using waterboarding and other "enhanced" techniques are deeply disturbing, and suggest a double standard, whereby these techniques are approved for use by the CIA but not by the Department of Defense and its intelligence agencies. All this points to the need for a common standard for humane and effective interrogation techniques across the government, which is what the provision called for in last year's bill.

Sen. JOHN MCCAIN has called the Army Field Manual techniques "humane and yet effective." In my view, there is no reason why interrogation techniques that work effectively and humanely for our military interrogators cannot also work effectively and humanely for CIA and other intelligence agency interrogators.

Mr. Chairman, I urge passage of this legislation, though I hope that the provision prohibiting interrogation techniques not authorized by the Army Field Manual on Interrogation is included in the conference report. I believe it sends a message that the United States believes no part of its government is above the law, and that no interrogation method is acceptable that could not also be used on Americans in enemy custody.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF STEPHEN MULLOY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Stephen Mulloy, who dedicated his life to serving as a community organizer on behalf of Irish-Americans in the Greater Cleveland Area.

Stephen Mulloy was born in Keel, County Mayo, Ireland and immigrated to Cleveland in 1954. Just a few short weeks after settling into his new home in Cleveland, he became active in numerous Irish-American community organizations in which he would remain active for over fifty years. His participation, dedication, and leadership made him an invaluable member not only to the Irish-American community, but also to the Greater Cleveland community. Many in the Greater Cleveland Community were familiar with Mr. Mulloy as it was his voice that kicked off the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Cleveland. Each year he beautifully sang both the Irish and U.S. national anthems, and in 2007, he served as the grand marshal of the Parade.

Mr. Mulloy was a member of several organizations including the West Side Irish-American Club, in which he served four one-year terms as President; the United Irish Societies, the Cleveland branch of the Irish National Caucus, and the St. Jarlath Gaelic Football Club, which he also played with for several years. He also was the founding member of the Mayo Society of Cleveland and served as past officer of the Irish Northern Aid organization. In addition to singing the national anthems at Cleveland's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, he was a renowned bag pipe player in the Shamrock Pipe Band. Mr. Mulloy also arranged several tours to Ireland for a local theatrical company, the Cleveland Irish Players and once in 2004, organized and led a trip for Mayor Jane Campbell and several Clevelanders to Achill Island.

Mr. Mulloy's leadership and personable demeanor allowed him to connect with many of Cleveland's diverse communities and he was recognized several times for his dedication and work in the Greater Cleveland Community. Earlier this year, he was the recipient of the Mayo Society of Cleveland Man of the Year Award. In 2000 he was honored with the Man of the Year Award by the first group he joined after immigrating from Ireland, the West Side Irish-American Club.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life of Stephen Mulloy, who dedicated his life to serving his family and his community.

HONORING FORMER MAYOR BOB JEHN OF CLOVERDALE, CALI- FORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, together with my colleague LYNN WOOLSEY, I rise today to recognize my good friend, Bob Jehn, who retired from public office on July 4, 2008 after serving 14 years on the city council of Cloverdale, California.

During Mr. Jehn's tenure on the council, he served four times as its mayor. He was also a three-term member of the board of directors on the League of California Cities, past chairman and the longest serving member of the Sonoma County Transportation Authority, past chairman and member of the North Coast Rail Authority and Chairman and member of the Sonoma-Marine Area Rail Transit Authority.

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Mr. Jehn and his wife of 30 years, Nancy, moved to California in 1977 and to Cloverdale in 1990. He is a graduate of the University of Texas and a Navy veteran, serving aboard the USS *Force*, MSO 445, an ocean mine sweeper, from June 1963 through May 1965.

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Madam Speaker, Bob Jehn, has been an exceptional public servant. He has served the people of Cloverdale and Sonoma County well and it is fitting at this time that we honor him today and wish him well as he enters the next phase of his life.

RIGHTING THE INJUSTICE AT FORT LAWTON

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a military ceremony taking place in Seattle, Washington, from July 24–26. This ceremony will finally mark the official end to an injustice thrust upon 28 members of an African American unit at Seattle's Fort Lawton in 1944.

On August 14, 1944, an Italian prisoner of war was lynched at Fort Lawton following a nighttime confrontation between members of three all-black Army port companies, a company of prisoners in an Italian Service Unit and many other Army personnel. Subsequently, 28 of the 43 African-American soldiers charged in the melee were convicted of rioting; two soldiers were also found guilty of manslaughter. Although the sloppiness of the investigation, coupled with clear racial discrimination, tainted the entire court-martial proceeding, the ruling and the dishonorable discharge of the 28 convicted soldiers stood for more than six decades.

However, following the publication of a scrupulously researched account of the clash and courts-martial by a Seattle author, and the interest of my colleague on the other side of the aisle, Congressman JIM McDERMOTT, the U.S. Army overturned the convictions of the 28 soldiers and granted them honorable discharges. Although the wheels of justice turned painfully slow for 28 African-American veterans, July 24–26 will be a wonderful celebration of their dedicated service to our country and the final corrections of their military records.

Unfortunately, only two of the original 28 soldiers are alive today, meaning 26 Army veterans passed away before an extreme personal injustice was rectified. My hope is that the families of the deceased veterans can find some kind of peace knowing their loved ones service is truly appreciated and honored.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is July 17, 2008 in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Mr. Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,960 days since the tragedy called *Roe v. Wade* was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of

why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th Amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So Madam Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 12,960 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that it is time that we stood up together again, and remembered that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust; and we are still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

Madam Speaker, as we consider the plight of unborn America tonight, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is July 17, 2008, 12,960 days since *Roe* versus *Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children; this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 504, on the Shuler Amendment to H.R. 415, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today, I proudly join in a bipartisan effort with Congresswomen ROSA DELAURO, DEBORAH PRYCE, MARCY KAPTUR, and ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON in introducing the National Women's History Museum, NWHM. This bill directs the General Services Administration, GSA, to house a National Women's History Museum in one of their properties in Washington, DC. NWHM must pay fair market value for the property and reasonable timeframes are included for the transfer of the property and for construction to begin. NWHM will be built and maintained with private funds.

Women's history is largely missing from textbooks, memorials, museum exhibits and many other venues. In contrast, men have hundreds of years of written and available history to reflect upon and use for inspiration. Of the 210 statues in the United States Capitol, only 9 are of female leaders. Less than 5 percent of the 2,400 national historic landmarks chronicle women's achievement and according to a survey of 18 history textbooks, only 10 percent were dedicated to women.

The museums and memorials in our Nation's Capital demonstrate what we value. We have museums dedicated to flight, postage stamps, law enforcement and many other important people and issues of interest, but not to women. This bill would provide women, comprising 53 percent of our population, a long overdue home on our National Mall to honor their many contributions that are the very fabric of our country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in filling this void and honoring our Nation's foremothers by becoming cosponsors of the National Women's History Museum Act of 2008.

RECOGNIZING RWA SLOVAKIA AND HFPJC-AVOYSEINU FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE MARCELOVA CEMETERY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the work of Heritage Foundation for Preservation of Jewish Cemeteries, HFPJC-Avoyseinu in preserving Jewish cemeteries in Europe and to offer recognition to RWA Slovakia for their humanitarian contribution to the protection of a Jewish cemetery in Marcelova, Slovakia.

I have the highest respect for HFPJC and its efforts to preserve Jewish cemeteries throughout Europe. The Nazis not only destroyed the Jewish population of Europe during the Holocaust, but they left Jewish cemeteries in ruin. The fall of the iron curtain and

the brutal rule of the communists in Eastern Europe only further desecrated the final resting places of millions of Jews. HFPJC is trying to right the wrongs of the preceding decades by working with communities throughout Europe to preserve the graves of their ancestors.

In my work with HFPJC on preservation of cemeteries in Slovakia, I have learned about the Marcelova Jewish Cemetery Project and the role the RWA Slovakia company played in enabling the cemetery's preservation. I would like to share this important story of generosity and interfaith understanding with the House.

The Marcelova Jewish cemetery site, after the Holocaust, became a deserted wasteland and passed from community to municipal to private ownership. RWA corporation owned the Marcelova Jewish cemetery lot for at least the past decade. As a burial ground, the Marcelova cemetery is sacred to people of the Jewish faith. HFPJC, acting on behalf of some highly concerned Marcelova descendants, attempted to secure the return and appropriate preservation of the cemetery before it is accidentally desecrated through construction or development.

After individual meetings between both the Marcelova mayor and several managing officers of RWA, in which all displayed exceptional courtesy, consideration, and understanding of the humanitarian significance of the issue, RWA agreed to allow the fencing and preservation of the cemetery site, adjoining their office complex. I have seen photographs of the restoration of the cemetery and would like to offer my highest commendation to RWA Slovakia for their work with HFPJC to preserve the Marcelova Jewish cemetery.

Madam Speaker, this is a generous and humane gesture on the part of RWA Slovakia, and is worthy of public recognition. Therefore, with this statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the House of Representatives of the United States, I officially commend the RWA Corporation of Slovakia for its preservation of the Marcelova Jewish cemetery.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, November 6, 2007, I could not be present for rollcall votes 500 to 508, due to a previous commitment to a distinguished constituent of mine.

Had I been present, I would have cast the following votes: "yes" on rollcall vote 500, 501, 504, 505, 507, 508 and "nay" on rollcall vote 502, 503, 506.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEARL VALLEY CHEESE

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Pearl Valley Cheese in Fresno, Ohio is celebrating 80 years of business since 1928; and

Whereas, Pearl Valley Cheese has developed a fund raising program for local 4-H, FFA, church and nonprofit community groups; and

Whereas, Pearl Valley Cheese has won a number of coveted awards, including a silver medal at the World Cheese Competition for their smoked Swiss and a number of awards at the Ohio State Fair: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend Pearl Valley Cheese for their unwavering commitment, dedication and contributions to their community and country in recognition of their 80 years.

HONORING DOCTOR RALPH MESSO

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a constituent who has faithfully served the people of Staten Island for many years, Dr. Ralph Messo.

Born on Staten Island in 1961, Dr. Messo was inspired by the compassion and caring nature of the physicians he encountered as a young boy. After graduating from Wagner College, Dr. Messo pursued and was awarded a degree in Osteopathic Medicine from the University of New England in 1989. Dr. Messo was drawn to osteopathic medicine and its holistic approach to treatment—care that extended beyond the patient to his or her entire family.

After medical school, Dr. Messo returned to New York to care for the residents of Staten Island. Over the years, he has earned the respect and gratitude of my constituents across the Island through his generous spirit, his caring nature and unyielding commitment to health care in the borough. Dr. Messo's gentle demeanor and reassuring tone provide comfort to all his patients—the new mothers and fathers struggling to navigate the sometimes choppy waters of parenthood . . . and seniors who may need extra reassurance and a sympathetic ear.

He is currently the president of the Richmond County Medical Society, serves as councilor to the American College of Physicians, is an attending faculty member at both of Staten Island's medical centers, and sits on the Medical Advisory Board of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. He served as the assistant director of the Internal Medicine/Pediatric residency program at Staten Island University Hospital from 1993–2007 and was recently appointed Adjunct Clinical professor at Tourocom, a new medical school in Harlem, New York. In addition, Dr. Messo has been given The Consumer's Research Council of America's "Top Physician" award, the Peter Barbero Humanitarian Award, and was named "America's Top Pediatrician" in 2007 and 2008.

Dr. Messo continues to give back to his profession, lending his years of experience to young medical students and residents—the physicians of tomorrow who work alongside him, share in his knowledge and learn that caring for a patient is as much about listening as it is about treating.

For his decades of service to the Staten Island community, I ask that my colleagues join

with me in honoring Dr. Ralph Messo and thanking him for his dedication to health care.

CONGRATULATING JAKE DEITCHLER FOR MAKING THE 2008 U.S. OLYMPIC WRESTLING TEAM

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jake Deitchler of Anoka County, Minnesota for qualifying for the 2008 U.S. Olympic Wrestling team. Jake is a three-time State champion from Anoka High School and will be attending the University of Minnesota in the fall.

Jake's path to joining the Olympic team was certainly not an easy one. Competing in the 2008 Olympic Team Trials in the Greco-Roman style, Jake defeated a two-time World Bronze medalist in the semifinals and was then victorious in a hard fought final to earn a spot on the team. Just 18 years old, only two other high school wrestlers have ever qualified for the U.S. Olympics, and even more remarkably, not one wrestler his age has qualified since 1976.

Jake's success in the Olympic Trials carries on Minnesota's proud tradition of Greco-Roman wrestling. Since 1968, at least one man has made the U.S. Olympic Wrestling team from the North Star state. Jake will be one of 16 wrestlers representing the United States in the Beijing Games taking place in China in August.

Congratulations, Jake, and America looks forward to you bringing home the gold. We are all proud of your tremendous accomplishment and our Nation wishes you and your teammates the best of luck in Beijing.

H.R. 6307, SUPPORTING THE "FOSTERING CONNECTIONS TO SUCCESS ACT"

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, the House of Representatives recently passed H.R. 6307, the Fostering Connections to Success Act, sponsored by Representatives JIM McDERMOTT and JERRY WELLER. This bill is a strong first step in reforming the foster care system, and it includes provisions supporting kinship caregivers that I have championed for years. Specifically, the bill includes the 3 core elements of my bill, H.R. 2188, the Kinship Caregiver Support Act, which I introduced with Representative TIM JOHNSON: (1) it allows states to use Federal funds to support family caregivers raising relatives in the foster care system; (2) it provides funding to establish kinship navigator programs; and (3) it requires notification of relatives when a child enters the foster care system.

These provisions are critical to supporting our children and youth. Nationwide, almost 19 percent of kinship care providers live in poverty, and 30 percent to 40 percent of children

in foster care have chronic medical problems. Subsidized guardianship, like the Federal adoption assistance program, provides needed support to these kinship caregivers to afford appropriate care for these vulnerable children.

Further, kinship navigator programs serve as critical supports to the millions of grandparent caregivers who preventively took on the care of their grandchildren to keep them out of the foster care system. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are approximately 2.1 million children living with grandparents or other relatives with no parent present; however, only about 145,000 children in the foster care system live with kinship caregivers. This means that just under 2 million children are being cared for outside of the system and do not have access to subsidized guardianship payments. We must promote kinship navigator programs to help these caregivers understand and access supports to support our youngest citizens.

Research clearly shows that kinship foster care families are safer, more stable placements that are more likely to keep children connected with their siblings and communities than non-relative placements. Further, these placements are cost effective. In Illinois, cost studies found a projected savings of approximately \$48 million over 10 years compared to a matched control group that did not have this option. For these reasons, it is imperative that we promote kinship caregiving within the foster care system, and required notification to relatives is an important step to this end.

The issue of grandparents raising grandchildren is very significant for Illinois and for Chicago specifically. My Congressional District has the highest percentage of children living with kinship caregivers in the U.S., with two other Chicago districts following closely behind. The legislation promises critical financial support to family members raising relatives in foster care. We have more to do, but I applaud the House of Representatives for passing this bill that will do so much for so many.

**COMMENDING THE FIREFIGHTERS
FROM CALIFORNIA AND
THROUGHOUT THE UNITED
STATES FOR THEIR COURAGEOUS
ACTIONS AND SACRIFICES
IN FIGHTING THE CALIFORNIA
WILDFIRES**

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the brave firefighters from across California and around the country who have courageously risked their lives to halt the spread of wildfires that continue to devastate California. The dedication and determination of our Nation's first responders and firefighters have helped dramatically contain the nearly 1,800 wildfires that have burned over 829,000 acres, or 1,300 square miles, across California.

These fires have been the most intense and widespread in California's history, and thousands of brave men and women have honored the call to protect our state from these fires. More than 150 firefighters from Sonoma Coun-

ty, in my Congressional District have responded to the fires, and firefighters from Santa Rosa served more than 22 days each, totaling 4,000 hours of their time in June. More than 80 Marin firefighters and other support personnel have been dispatched to fight fires throughout Northern California. In addition to the unrivaled contributions of the California's firefighters, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger called up 2,400 National Guard troops join the fire crews. Furthermore, firefighters from 41 states, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand have all offered their support, resources, and manpower during this crisis.

The bravery of these committed first responders and the tremendous sacrifices they made to help fight California's fires have not gone unnoticed. Our firefighters deserve the highest commendation for putting themselves in the line of danger. That's why I am proud to support H. Res. 1322, a resolution honoring the firefighters from California and throughout the United States for their heroism and sacrifices in fighting the California wildfires. These brave men and women deserve no less.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, July 16, 2008, I missed the rollcall vote No. 507, had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote No. 507: "nay" (On Passage of H.R. 415 to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Taunton River in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System).

A TRIBUTE TO POLK ROBISON

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to remember Polk Robison, a lifelong supporter of District 19's Texas Tech University. Mr. Robison passed away June 27, 2008, at the age of 96.

Polk Robison was best known for his service to Texas Tech Athletics, where he was a champion basketball player, coach, and athletic director. Mr. Robison's devotion to his alma mater helped push Texas Tech Athletics into the Southwest and Big 12 Conferences and into the national spotlight.

Born in Springfield, Tennessee, Mr. Robison and his family moved to Texas when he was 14. He graduated from Lubbock High School and then from Texas Tech in 1934, earning not only a degree in journalism, but also three consecutive Border Conference basketball championships as a center.

Mr. Robison's love of sports led to an early career in coaching football at Burk Burnett High School, which soon turned to working for General Motors in Houston. His passion for athletics and Texas Tech brought him back to the

university in 1941 as an assistant football and basketball coach. The following year, Mr. Robison moved into the head basketball coach position and remained there for 18 seasons, accumulating a record of 249–196, three Border Conference titles, and a Southwest Conference championship—ranking him second in all-time victories of any Texas Tech coach.

His talents extended beyond the basketball program. Mr. Robison served a short stint as the university's tennis coach, leading the team to a Southwest Conference championship.

He made a gradual change into a ten-year career as Texas Tech's athletic director and retired in 1977 while serving as the athletics administrator for finance and development. He continued to attend Red Raider basketball games until he was 95.

Mr. Robison's devotion overflowed to the community. He served the Lubbock Rotary Club for 40 years, and the Westminster Presbyterian Church named its park in honor of Mr. Robison, a church elder, and his wife, Stephanie.

His student jersey number—appropriately, the number one—hangs retired in the university's United Spirit Arena. Former head basketball coach Bob Knight permanently designated a Polk Robison chair next to the team's bench at every home game, bearing the name of this university legend.

Mr. Robison cared deeply for his family: his wife, the late Stephanie Corley Robison and his three children, Bill, Kay, and Anne. He also made a lasting impression on his players for his professionalism, caring nature, and motivation. He enjoyed seeing them not only grow as athletes, but grow into men.

Those from District 19, including myself, will miss Mr. Robison's enthusiasm for life, dedication to improvement, and tenacity in making Texas Tech a respected and outstanding institution.

**TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS
INTERNATIONAL**

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. HULSHOF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 40th anniversary of an organization that has profoundly enriched the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities and society as a whole through sports competition. Special Olympics International has promoted the benefits of sports competition for individuals with intellectual disabilities since 1968, when Eunice Kennedy Shriver founded the Special Olympics and convened its first International Games in Chicago.

Two years later, in 1971, Special Olympics Missouri opened its doors and started programs for Missourians with intellectual disabilities. For more than 36 years, Special Olympics Missouri has been providing sports training and competitions for athletes ages 8 and up.

The first Missouri Summer Games were held in 1975, that same year Missouri Special Olympics sent its first athletes to International Summer Games. Except for a brief hiatus in Columbia, Missouri—my hometown—the State Summer Games have been held at Fort Leonard Wood.

Today, Missourians from the ages of 8 to 80 compete in Special Olympics, with an average age around 25. Special Olympics provide year-round sports training and athletics competition for Missouri's children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics Missouri currently serves more than 15,000 athletes with mental disabilities, in 19 sports, at 152 competitions throughout Missouri, with 4 statewide competitions, and more than 1,370 of Missouri's finest citizens who serve as volunteer coaches. Special Olympics Missouri athletes have participated in competitions all over the World from Ames, Iowa in our own backyard to Anchorage, Alaska, Toronto, Canada, Dublin, Ireland, Nagano, Japan, and just last year—Shanghai, China.

Through sports, these individuals develop improved physical fitness and motor skills, greater self-confidence, and a more positive self-image.

My colleagues know that as Co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Youth Sports, I wholeheartedly believe that sports involvement improves one's health, character, and leadership skills. The Caucus believes in promoting the values of sportsmanship, civility, respect, safety, fun and fitness among the players, coaches, parents, and officials. I am proud to tell you that Special Olympics promotes these same values in its programs and especially in its Healthy Athletes and Unified Sports programs.

In recent years, Special Olympics Missouri has expanded its reach to address health and fitness issues unique to individuals with intellectual disabilities. The Healthy Athletes Program provides health screenings in conjunction with competitions.

Special Olympics Unified Sports is a program that combines approximately equal numbers of Special Olympics athletes and athletes without mental disabilities (called Partners) on sports teams for training and competition. Throughout the year, in a variety of sports ranging from basketball to golf to figure skating, Unified Sports athletes improve their physical fitness, sharpen their skills, challenge the competition and have fun, too.

The concept of combining athletes with mental disabilities and those without was first introduced in the mid-1980s to provide another level of challenge for higher ability athletes and to promote equality and inclusion. Today, the initiative includes virtually all Special Olympics sports.

Unified Sports enables athletes to:

Learn new sports, develop higher-level sports skills and have new competition experiences;

Experience a sense of meaningful inclusion, as each athlete is ensured of playing a valued role on the team;

Socialize with peers and form friendships (the initiative provides a forum for positive social interaction between teammates and often leads to long-lasting friendships) and;

Participate in their communities and have choices outside of Special Olympics.

In 1997, TIME magazine published a story about a Unified Sports partner from Missouri, Ryan Brimer of Boonville.

The Missouri Police Chiefs Association has been a big supporter of Special Olympics Missouri through its Law Enforcement Torch Run. What began as a 30-mile run is now a four-day relay that covers more than 950 miles and 1,000 runners. Now more than a run, the

Torch Run is a campaign to raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics. It originates at 25 different locations around the State of Missouri and ends at the State Summer Games. Nearly 200 agencies and 2,500 officers volunteer all year to make the Torch Run happen. In fact, Missouri's event consistently ranks as one of the top ten fundraising Torch Runs in the world. I am proud of Missouri's law enforcement officers who give of their time for this noble cause.

Special Olympics themes of inclusion, health, sportsmanship, leadership, and fun in sports make the world and Missouri a better place for individuals with and without disabilities. I am proud to congratulate Special Olympics on its years of achievement and I thank Special Olympics on behalf of all Missourians.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET SULLIVAN WILSON

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of an outstanding citizen and constituent. Margaret Sullivan Wilson of Norwich, Connecticut passed away on Saturday July 12th. I want to take this opportunity to express my condolences and offer my prayers to her family, as well as honor her service to her community.

After graduating from Willimantic State Teachers' College and getting her Masters in Education from the University of Connecticut, Peg Sullivan returned home to Norwich, Connecticut to begin a teaching career. After 44 years of dedicated instruction—from elementary school to college—she retired as an Executive Dean at Eastern Connecticut State University, where she was honored in 2006 by the dedication of the Margaret S. Wilson Child Family Development Complex.

Her retirement from teaching did not end her tireless commitment to helping others. Peg was the President of the Thames Valley Council for Community Action; President of the Connecticut Mental Health Association; founder of Norwich, Connecticut's Head Start program; and in 2004, she founded the Norwich Historical Society. She also served on the Blue Ribbon Commission for the University of Connecticut Health Center, the White House Conference on Children and the National Commission to Reduce Infant Mortality.

She also dedicated herself to the change she believed would help her compatriots. She served on the Norwich Board of Education, the Democratic Town Committee and as a delegate to the 1968 and 1972 Democratic National Conventions.

Her dedication to early childhood education and educational reform of all kinds did not go unnoticed. She was honored by the Norwich Citizen of the Year Award in 1970 and Natchaug Hospital Lifetime Achievement Award in May of this year.

Peg Wilson will live on through the memory of her achievements and the achievements by those she inspired. Peg, we in Congress honor your great service and you will truly be missed.

IN HONOR OF MANUEL SANTANA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Manuel Santana, Santa Cruz County's 2008 Artist of the Year and beloved contributor to Central Coast art. He sadly passed away July 8, 2008, ten days before he was to present his award-winning work at the Museum of Art & History in Santa Cruz.

Mr. Santana was born on March 31, 1927, to a family of Mexican descent, and began demonstrating his artistic talent in his youth, drawing bugs and collecting comic books. He grew up in Los Angeles, initially pursuing a career as a teacher but later discovering his talent as an artist. After moving to Santa Cruz in 1961, Manuel worked diligently as owner of the restaurants Manuel's in Aptos and Jardines de San Juan in San Juan Bautista, all while caring for his family.

Manuel's art incorporates a deep connection to Mexican traditions, as well as politics and social movements like that of César Chávez. The numerous sculptures, paintings, and acrylics he produced display a vibrant use of colors, which provide new aspects of the pieces with each view.

In addition to art, Mr. Santana was also intimately involved in the community. He founded the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Convocation at the University of California Santa Cruz, served on the University of California's Water Resources Advisory Board and the Board of Directors for the Bear Republic Theatre Company, and was president and lifetime board member of the Cabrillo Music Festival. He also was president of the Central Coast Counties Development Corporation, working to organize and empower farm workers in Monterey County.

Many people were touched by Manny's generous and enlightening spirit, and his passing leaves our community greatly saddened. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the House, I would like to extend our nation's deep gratitude for Manuel Santana's commitment to his local community. I know I speak for every Member of Congress in offering my condolences to the entire Santana family: his daughter Angelina, son Leonardo, daughter-in-law Patricia, and grandchildren Oliver, Joaquin, and Valentin. California has lost a great citizen, but the legacy he leaves behind is priceless.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO ALLOW FOR THE TAX-EX- EMPT BOND FINANCING FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL AIRCRAFT

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing legislation with my colleague from Washington state, Congresswoman MCMORRIS RODGERS, that amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow tax-exempt bond financing for airplanes that

exclusively provide emergency medical services.

Our current tax code prohibits the use of tax-exempt bonds for the purchase of airplanes. This exclusion was meant to prevent the use of tax-exempt bonds for frivolous purposes, including corporate jets. My legislation would continue the ban on using tax-exempt bonds for extravagant reasons and simply allow tax-exempt bond financing for airplanes that exclusively provide emergency medical services.

This issue is particularly important to my district because Inland Northwest Health Services (INHS), a non-profit organization based in Spokane, is looking to expand air ambulance service to rural areas by purchasing new planes. In 2007, INHS provided 2,891 emergency medical flights. INHS currently serves Central and Eastern Washington, as well as parts of Oregon, Idaho and Montana. In my district, INHS serves residents in Adams, Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Franklin, Grant, Kittitas and Klickitat counties.

The IRS currently allows tax-exempt bonds to be used to purchase helicopters for air ambulance services. Some may wonder why then do we need to amend the tax code for fixed wing aircraft. In rural areas, such as my district, the use of helicopters is often impractical because of the long distances that patients must be transported. Airplanes are commonly the best mode of transportation for critically ill patients because they can travel longer distances and provide the safest and fastest mode of travel during inclement weather.

While I have focused on why this legislation is important to the residents of my district, I want to be clear that my legislation does not only assist the non-profit INHS. Under this bill, any organization that would like to obtain tax-exempt bond financing for airplanes that are exclusively dedicated to providing acute emergency care would be eligible.

I urge my colleagues to support this simple change to our tax code and I hope that this bill will become law in the very near future.

HONORING THE STUDENTS OF UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI RECOGNIZED BY THE NASA'S 2008 UNIVERSITY STUDENT FUTURE AIRCRAFT COMPETITION

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor students from the University of Miami participating in NASA's 2008 University Student Future Aircraft Competition. These four students placed second out of sixty-one students from 14 universities around the world. This is a tremendous accomplishment not only for these four students, but also for the future of our Nation's air transportation systems. I know that I join with our entire community in honoring their success.

Each team was asked to create a future subsonic transport aircraft that could carry up to 50,000 pounds, operate on runways between 1,500 and 3,000 feet long, and cruise at speeds between 595 and 625 mph. The competition also stressed that the planes should

use alternative fuels and be quieter and more environmentally friendly than today's commercial fleet. The team from the University of Miami successfully created The 2058 Aircraft: Quiet Ultra-Efficient Integrated Aircraft, which placed them second over all. The Nation's air transportation system is under tremendous pressure to increase performance and capacity without causing additional damage to the environment and this competition is paramount to aiding the advancement of aircraft technology.

With all their hard work, skill and commitment to excellence, these young adults managed to earn a very notable title. These students truly deserve to be recognized for their accomplishment.

I also recognize that it was with the support of their parents, professors and friends that these students were able to compete and stand out in such a demanding competition. Several NASA experts judge the University Student Future Aircraft Competition and it is no easy task to earn their approval.

I would like to submit the names of the University of Miami students recognized by the NASA's 2008 University Student Future Aircraft Competition: Sebastian Aspe, Joseph Dussling, Nicholas Heinz, and Daniel Martinez.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these wonderful students and the faculty at University of Miami for their success at NASA's 2008 University Student Future Aircraft Competition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 506, on the Wittman Motion to Recommit with instructions, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO THE 40TH BIRTHDAY OF THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the 40th birthday of the Special Olympics. Experts agree that this organization has had a more positive impact on the lives of people with intellectual disabilities than any other organization of its kind.

Illinois is divided into 17 Special Olympic areas. My area, area 12 consists of 8 counties and works with over 1000 athletes. At least 8 weeks prior to the competition, volunteer coaches work with individuals to prepare them to compete in one or more of the 12 sports offered by Special Olympics. Through the Special Olympics, athletes better their physical fitness, motor skills, and self-image, as well as gain confidence that will carry over into their daily lives.

The Special Olympics are not only beneficial to the athletes themselves, but benefit the families of the athletes as well. Families gain

a stronger appreciation and respect for their athlete's abilities. Volunteers within the organization also gain a great satisfaction from interactions with the athletes and seeing them succeed.

The Special Olympics can only be made possible through the generous donations of money and time through its supporters and volunteers. Fundraisers and donations make this remarkable program possible. For all those that make this program possible, I would like to thank you for your unwavering dedication and support. You have made an impact on the lives of all the athletes. For the athletes, congratulations on your amazing accomplishments, within the Special Olympics and all other aspects of your life. I wish every one of you nothing but the best in the future.

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA DURING ITS NATIONAL BOULÉ CONFERENCE CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my enthusiastic congratulations and support of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority during its national Boulé conference celebrating 100 years of the organization in Washington, DC. The sorority, founded at Howard University on January 15, 1908, is the first Greek-lettered sorority established and incorporated by a group of nine African-American college women. The AKA sorority broke barriers for African-American women in areas where little power or authority existed due to a lack of opportunities for minorities and women in the early twentieth century.

Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, the sorority consists of college-educated women of African, Caucasian, Asian, and Hispanic descent. The sorority serves through a membership of more than 200,000 women in over 900 chapters in the United States and several other countries.

Since its inception, Alpha Kappa Alpha has helped to improve social and economic conditions through community service programs. Members have improved education through independent initiatives, contributed to community-building by creating programs and influenced Federal legislation by legislation advocacy through the National Non-Partisan Lobby on Civil and Democratic Rights.

My wife Vera, is a proud member of Tau Gamma Omega graduate chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Two of my sisters, Ceola and Floretta, are also AKA's. Tau Gamma Omega often meet in our home and I have always been very proud of the leadership and mentoring relationship my wife has established and continues to display with younger women who join. Tau Gamma Omega is a strong voice and positive presence in the community where they serve.

As a member of the fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha and the United States House of Representatives, I commend the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority on all their continuing endeavors to help the community, and I welcome the

26,000 attending members of the 2008 Centennial Boulé to their founding place of Washington, DC.

PLANO WEST BASEBALL CAP-
TURES NATIONAL CHAMPS
TITLE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, recently I congratulated the new high school baseball national championship team—Plano West Senior High School.

I also want to recognize additional people who contributed to the Wolves. Coaches: Greg Pierce, Assistant Coach; Greg Coutermarsh, Assistant Coach; Denny Garver, Assistant Coach. Players: Dustin Ellis; Sam Roberson; Ronnie Cooper—Student Manager; Karen Clark—Bat boy.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE
175TH ANNIVERSARY OF SALEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Salem Lutheran Church is celebrating its 175th anniversary; and

Whereas, the congregation of Salem Lutheran continue to be active, enthusiastic members of our community; and

Whereas, the 175th anniversary of Salem Lutheran Church has drawn new and old congregation members to Evans Creek, Ohio to celebrate the life of their church: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend Salem Lutheran Church and its congregation for their unwavering commitment, dedication and contributions to their community and country in recognition of their 175 years.

HONORING THE NEIGHBORHOOD
REVITALIZATION TAX CREDIT
PROGRAM

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

MR. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the achievements of the Neighbor Revitalization Tax Credit Program in New Jersey. This program allows New Jersey Corporations to allocate State corporate tax dollars to specific and approved nonprofit programs that revitalize a community.

Sanofi-Aventis pharmaceuticals took advantage of this program and dedicated \$1 million of their State corporate tax dollars to the Unity Square project. This project will acquire and develop 11 housing units for New Brunswick residents.

In addition to subsidizing the new housing, a portion of the funds will also be used to hire a nurse practitioner and a registered nurse to work extended hours at a local health clinic. The extended hours will enable the clinic to serve an additional 400 to 500 patients a year who would otherwise not receive medical care.

It is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Sanofi-Aventis, New Brunswick Mayor James Cahill, and the State of New Jersey for their dedication and creativity addressing unmet housing and medical needs.

PROMOTING HOMEOWNERSHIP AND
FAIR LENDING PRACTICES FOR
ALL AMERICANS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a concurrent resolution calling on Congress to support the goal of increased and sustainable homeownership in the United States. It is absolutely vital that Congress recommit itself to the importance of homeownership programs, fair lending laws, and fair housing laws in achieving the goal of homeownership.

My legislation has been updated from its previous introduction as H. Con. Res. 107 of the 109th Congress to reflect the current status of the housing market and the enduring need to improve access to homeownership. Once again, this resolution would put Congress on record recognizing fair lending and housing laws enacted to prevent and combat discriminatory practices which undermine homeownership efforts for all Americans.

Today, the current foreclosure crisis is a major stumbling block on the road to homeownership. Many are finding it increasingly difficult to achieve the American Dream of homeownership, which was beyond reach even before the emergence of our current crisis. When it comes to the health and vitality of America's communities, affordable housing is key. Congress has a responsibility to foster and promote an active, growing, and fair housing market in light of the significant stress this market experienced in 2007 and 2008. Most Americans' primary investment is in their home, and homeownership is the most common way for families to build and pass on wealth from one generation to another.

This resolution recognizes how important the establishment of homeownership programs and fair lending and housing laws have been to equalizing access to homeownership for all Americans. In particular, eliminating the disparities in homeownership rates between white families and minority families continues to be a goal of critical importance. In 2008, the homeownership rate for white Americans was 72 percent, but the rate was only 47.2 percent for African Americans and 49.7 percent for Hispanic Americans. With almost 4,000,000 fair housing violations occurring annually, we must continue to support efforts aimed at ensuring that all Americans have the opportunity to own a home.

This resolution also recognizes the detriment of predatory lending practices, which principally occur in the subprime market, and

their contribution to the housing market's worst slump in 16 years. As many as 2 million Americans will see their mortgage rates increase in the next 2 years. We must address the plight of borrowers victimized by predatory lenders and high priced mortgage alternatives by advocating consumer protections against abusive practices.

Madam Speaker, I first introduced this legislation with a number of my colleagues in 2005 and eventually garnered the support of 31 co-sponsors. To once again express the commitment of Congress to promoting homeownership, I have made a few key updates to this legislation. They reflect the current status of the housing market marred by the residual impacts of predatory lending practices, primarily in the sub-prime loan market. This legislation has also been updated to recognize specific initiatives to stem the rise of foreclosures.

Madam Speaker, I thank my friends who have joined me today to introduce this legislation, as well as the National Fair Housing Alliance, Fair Housing Center of the Greater Palm Beaches, and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, all of which have endorsed the resolution. I encourage my colleagues to support this necessary legislation and look forward to its expedient passage.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS
ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 40TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Special Olympics on the occasion of its 40th Anniversary. Special Olympics is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become physically fit, productive and respected members of society through sports training and competition.

Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition for athletes. In addition, every two years, athletes from all over the world come together to compete in the Special Olympics World Games. The United States and the State of Idaho are proud and honored to host the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games. This event will attract more than 3,000 athletes from over 100 nations to compete in seven Winter Olympic-type sporting events. This will be the largest multi-sport event ever held in the State of Idaho.

On July 23, 2007, my colleagues in the House of Representatives and I unanimously passed a resolution commending Idaho on winning the bid to host the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games. Among other things, this resolution expresses Congress's support for the 2009 Games, congratulates Idaho as the host of the Games, and applauds the goals of the Special Olympics to enrich the lives of people with intellectual disabilities through sports.

Madam Speaker, I have been privileged to work closely with Special Olympics and its staff both in Idaho and Washington, DC. I would like to commend the organization for the great work that it is doing on behalf of the thousands of Special Olympians throughout

the world. I would also like to thank the thousands of volunteers and coaches who donate their time and energy to support this great program. I am pleased to recognize Special Olympics International for 40 years of service and commitment to the many Special Olympians both in America and across the globe.

12TH ANNIVERSARY OF TWA
FLIGHT 800 TRAGEDY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, today is the 12th anniversary of the TWA Flight 800 tragedy, which took the lives of 230 men, women and children off the south shore of my district on Long Island.

We must keep alive the memory of those who perished over the Atlantic on July 17, 1996—just 12 minutes after departing for home, school trips, and to visit loved ones.

Just as important, the anguished families of the Flight 800 victims deserve our recognition. As do the emergency personnel, volunteers and other Long Islanders who selflessly worked for days on end in the recovery efforts.

As we recall that fateful day, we must also examine what steps the FAA has taken to safeguard the flying public and prevent a similar catastrophe from occurring as a result of defective fuel tanks.

After 12 years, the FAA finally issued a rule today requiring flammability reduction in new and existing fuel tanks, as well as new design standards and operating rules for retrofitting existing planes.

Madam Speaker, again, my deepest condolences go to the surviving families and friends of the Flight 800 crash victims. And my thanks to everyone who helped memorialize those who died 12 years ago today and who have worked toward making sure the flying public is safer today.

KATHERINE AYDEN HOLLINGS-
WORTH CREECH MAKES HER
MARK ON THE WORLD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Zeke Creech, formerly of my staff, and his wife Bess on the birth of their first child, Katherine Ayden Hollingsworth Creech. Katherine was born on June 16, 2008, and weighed 7 pounds and 13 ounces. Faye joins me in wishing Zeke and Bess great happiness during this very special time in their lives.

As a father and grandfather myself, I know the joy, pride, and excitement that parents experience upon the entrance of their child into the world. Representing hope, goodness, and innocence, a newborn allows those around her to see the world through her eyes as a new, fresh place with unending possibilities for the future. Through a child, one is able to recognize and appreciate the full potential of the human race. I know Zeke and Bess look for-

ward to the changes and challenges that their new daughter will bring to their lives while taking pleasure in the many rewards they are sure to receive as they watch her grow.

I welcome young Katherine into the world and wish Zeke and Bess all the best as they raise her.

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE
PROTECTION ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Health Insurance Coverage Protection Act. This bill addresses a serious problem for those Americans with chronic diseases or disabilities who have a lifetime cap on their insurance benefits and I'm proud to introduce this much-needed legislation.

Most people are unaware that more than half of all private health insurance policies in the U.S. have a lifetime cap on benefits. Once a cap is reached, these individuals are released from their healthcare plans and forced to pay for their expenses out of pocket, try to qualify for Medicaid or other State programs, or seek free care from hospitals or other providers. Some people who reach their limits may forego treatment or use fewer services, which can result in higher costs of care in the future. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation's 2007 Annual Survey of Employer Health Benefits, over half of employer-sponsored health plans set aggregate lifetime caps on covered benefits, which are most typically set at \$2 to \$3 million.

It's not a secret that medical expenditures have grown much faster than inflation, especially for those with chronic diseases and disabilities. Increasing the minimum lifetime cap will result in a net savings for Federal and State governments by allowing individuals with high medical costs to maintain private insurance rather than be forced onto Medicaid.

The Health Insurance Coverage Protection Act will phase in an increase in the lifetime caps placed on private group health insurance plans, reaching \$10 million in 4 years. The bill also calls for an Institute of Medicine study to determine the number of individuals that reach their lifetime caps.

People shouldn't have to job-hop in order to switch insurance plans or quit their job altogether to access Medicaid. This legislation will protect individuals who do have insurance and are still struggling to pay for expensive medical treatments due to their long-term medical conditions.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House on this bill and with Senator DORGAN, who has introduced the legislation in the Senate.

TRIBUTE TO THE SPECIAL
OLYMPICS

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. I rise today in recognition of an organization that is influ-

ential in the lives of millions across this Nation and around the world. Since 1968, the Special Olympics has celebrated those who triumph in the face of adversity and achieve victory despite insurmountable odds. This organization recognizes the ineffable beauty of human life and emphasizes the dignity of people with intellectual disabilities.

In 1968, Eunice Kennedy Shriver founded the Special Olympics in honor of her sister, Rosemary. The first games were hosted at Soldier Field in Chicago, and featured over 1,000 participants from the United States and Canada. Since that time, the Special Olympics has become one of our Nation's greatest exports, serving 2.5 million athletes in over 180 nations and offering year-round training and competition in 30 Olympic-type winter and summer sports.

The Fifth District of New Jersey holds two major venues of our Winter Games each year: Campqaw in Mahwah features cross country skiing and snowshoeing, while Mountain Creek in Vernon holds alpine skiing and snowboarding.

Earlier this year, I was honored to have John Rosati, a Special Olympics participant from Mercer County, visit my office. In addition, I would like to recognize one of my own constituents, Kelley Sue Martin of Closter. Not only does she compete in alpine skiing, bowling, and track and field, but she also serves as a spokesperson for Special Olympics New Jersey and speaks at community and fund-raising events throughout the state.

As the Special Olympics celebrates its 40th birthday on July 20, I join my colleagues in recognizing the indelible impact left by this exceptional organization. Over the past four decades, the Special Olympics has been an effective catalyst for social change. Special Olympians develop improved physical fitness and motor skills, greater self-confidence, and a more positive self-image. Participants grow mentally, socially and spiritually. They exhibit boundless courage and enthusiasm while enjoying the rewards of friendship and discovering new abilities and talents.

Few creeds sum up the American Spirit better than the oath of the Special Olympics: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." I applaud the Special Olympics for providing an arena for athletes to follow this creed.

TRIBUTE TO THE 40TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE SPECIAL OLYM-
PICS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Special Olympics. Special Olympics began through the dreams, work, and dedication of Eunice Kennedy Shriver. Mrs. Shriver, along with her son Timothy Shriver, and countless volunteers have made the dream of the Special Olympics a reality for 40 years now.

The Special Olympics embody the real American Dream—a world where everybody matters, where everybody counts and everybody gives their all. For four decades, Special

Olympics has brought us closer to that idea by encouraging excellence, sharing and courage through year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics improves health and physical well-being. It builds confidence and self-esteem. And perhaps most importantly, it gives athletes a voice, so that they can become active and productive members of their communities.

We sometimes forget what life was like for the intellectually disabled before the Special Olympics—a time when people were shuttered away in institutions, sentenced to lives of solitude, emptiness and sadness. But today that has all changed, largely because of the Special Olympics. Today, 2.5 million Special Olympians train and compete in 30 sports in over 180 countries. The Special Olympics has become a platform for breaking down social barriers—for raising the standard of public health, for helping intellectually disabled people overcome a prejudice that, for all our advances, plagues us to this day in some corners of society.

I urge my colleagues to stand with me to celebrate and honor the Special Olympics on the 40th anniversary of this remarkable, inspirational organization.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHICAGO TO MACKINAC RACE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor one of the Great Lakes' most hallowed traditions: annual Chicago to Mackinac Race, the world's oldest and longest freshwater sailboat race. Each July, nearly 300 boats make the 333-mile trip to Mackinac Island in 2 to 3 days.

This year will mark the 100th anniversary of the race, commonly referred to by sailing enthusiasts as simply "the Mac." Although the first race was held in 1898, several years passed between the first and second running of the race. In other years, the race did not occur because of the United States' entry into World War I. Two other years also did not count toward the total number of Mackinac races, as the race did not terminate at Mackinac Island, but at Harbor Springs, Michigan. This year, however, will mark the 100th time that the regatta will make the trek from Chicago, north up Lake Michigan, following the shores of Michigan's Lower Peninsula to finally land on historic Mackinac Island.

In the nautical world, the Mac is viewed by many as an outstanding test of sailors' skill, experience and sailing aptitude. Lake Michigan's volatile weather conditions can mean that the race challenges sailors' abilities. Despite the dangers and challenges of the Mac, there has never been a fatality and only one boat has been lost.

The weather challenges presented to those who sail in the Mac are well documented. In July 1925, 21 yachts started the race. Within 12 hours, six of the boats in the competition were blown back to Chicago. In 1937, sailors encountered winds with gusts up to 65 knots, or 75 miles per hour. In that race, only eight boats finished what 42 started. Mac enthu-

siasts refer to 1970 as "the year of the big blow" because a northerly wind blasted competitors in the race head on. Of the more than 160 yachts participating, more than half were forced to take refuge in safe harbor, crippled with shattered masts, torn sails and seasick crews.

One of the most challenging Mackinac races in history occurred in 1911. That year, 11 boats holding 142 crewmembers set forth from Chicago to Mackinac. Overnight, temperatures dropped to freezing, the breeze turned into a blustering wind and then became a gale. To add to the discomfort, a rainstorm began. As night fell, the gale escalated to hurricane force, with gusts peaking at 80 miles per hour. The wind, rain and waves played topsy-turvy with the yachts and the race of 1911 ended with the loss of a legendary mahogany-hulled sail boat, by the name of *Vencedor*. The huge waves thrashed the boat mercilessly and plunged it between two boulders on one of the many Great Lakes reefs. Although the crew was rescued, the *Vencedor* was lost. Despite the terrible storm, all 142 men who sailed that regatta arrived safely ashore at Mackinac Island, showing once more the perseverance and determination of those who compete in the Mac.

The race is sponsored by the Chicago Yacht Club and this year begins there on Saturday, July 19. The continued support of the Chicago Yacht Club and—since 1937—the Mackinac Island Yacht Club has been critical to keeping the Mac going these many years. The U.S. Coast Guard has provided tremendous assistance for the race over the years, working to ensure the safety of the sailors and rescue boats when necessary.

Madam Speaker, there is great nautical history associated with the race and great personal pride among those who have participated. Sailors who have competed in more than 25 "Macs" are called "Island Goats," a title they wear with pride and affection. There are various explanations for where the title "Island Goat" originates. Some say that the sailors who participated in the race smelled like goats when they completed their two- or three-day voyage from Chicago. Others claim that the title "Island Goat" is a reference to the unruly celebrations of the early sailors when they finally arrived at Mackinac Island. Regardless of where the term stems, those who are "Island Goats" are proud of this distinction and have even formed the Island Goat Sailing Society.

Madam Speaker, this July, for the 100th time, those on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan will once again be able to gaze out upon the Lake and watch as an impressive regatta of hundreds of vessels race north toward Mackinac Island. As all of us from the Great Lakes observe the 100th anniversary of the Mac, I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring the great tradition of the Mac and in saluting the thousands of men and women who have maintained this great race over the past century.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GIL LANGFORD

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Gilbert B. Langford, who died this week at the age of 82. One of the greatest honors in my time in Congress was awarding Gil the Congressional Gold Medal.

At the age of 16, he was assigned at Tuskegee Air Base later earning his wings and the honorable right to call himself a Tuskegee Airman. He ended his distinguished career as a 1st lieutenant acquiring the skills as a pilot, navigator, and bombardier.

As a civilian, he became one of the first black engineers for General Electric and served as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Energy while working for the Department of Defense.

Gil was a true American hero and will be missed most by his three children and six grandchildren. Gilbert Langford unselfishly gave every fiber to his country, and still believed he could give more.

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF HISTORY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, rise today to honor the Evangelical Mission and Seminary International in the Towaco portion of the Township of Montville, Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant community I am proud to represent! On August 8 and 10, 2008, the good citizens of Montville will celebrate the Evangelical Mission and Seminary International's 40th anniversary.

Evangelical Mission and Seminary International, EMSI, was established in 1968 by the Reverend Moses Yang. The mission has branches in four continents: Europe, Asia, North America, and Africa, and is made up of several organizations, including Evangelical Bible Institute, Christian Evangelical Mission, and Christian Evangelical Overseas Outreach. Reverend Yang started the personal ministry in 1968. He opened his house and targeted different groups for Bible study, including the College Bible Study group, youth and junior high school students and the Children's Sunday School. When Bible study groups continued to grow, a church was established. The Evangelical Mission and Seminary International was established in Towaco, New Jersey in 1982. In the past 40 years, 1968–2008, the ministry had expanded to include seminaries, churches, mission, literature, and broadcasting.

The Evangelical Bible Institute, also located in Towaco, was founded in 1979 and occupies over 19 acres. Campus facilities include the Educational Building, a church, and Chinese/English library, which houses in excess of 14,000 books. The Christian Evangelical Mission was established in West Orange, New Jersey, in 1975. EMSI established the Christian Evangelical Overseas Mission in 1995

with the purpose of developing the overseas mission work.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Evangelical Mission and Seminary International, as well as the Reverend Moses Yang, on the celebration of 40 years serving Morris County and people around the world.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES
WEILAND'S CIVIL AIR PATROL
SERVICE

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the long and committed service of Lieutenant Colonel James Weiland to the Illinois Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, CAP. It was in April 1956 that Jim joined the CAP as a cadet and through his high school years he attained the rank of cadet captain. He then served his country in the U.S. Air Force for 3 years before joining the CAP as a senior member.

During his service as a member of the Illinois Wing, Lt. Col. Weiland held several leadership positions including Group Commander, Cadet Program Development Officer Wing Director of Cadets. Prior to these challenges he served with distinction as Wing Assistant Director as well as Communications, Licensing and Radio Maintenance Officer. These challenges led to his being named CAP Communicator of the Year in 2008.

Beyond these significant accomplishments, Lt. Col. Weiland will again distinguish himself at the conclusion of the July 26, 2008, Illinois Wing Summer Encampment making this the 60th summer encampment he has attended since 1956. Since his first, Jim has missed only 1 year but served at two different encampments from 1962 through 1968. Through these many years Jim has led cadets as Encampment Commander 3 times, Deputy Commander 6 times, Financial Officer 44 times and Tactical Officer 6 times. These leadership roles have led him to eight different CAP encampment sites within the Illinois patron area. While these leadership positions were ample commitment alone, Jim also helped out with other responsibilities such as serving the encampment's communications and many administrative needs.

It is my honor, Madam Speaker, to recognize Lt. Col. Weiland's long service, unselfish dedication and hard work in support of the Civil Air Patrol and the Illinois Wing Encampment Program for nearly five decades. It can be said of this truly committed patriot, the Civil Air Patrol and many fine young cadets can all be said to have benefited tremendously from the distinguished commitment of Lt. Col. James Weiland.

IN HONOR OF CONRAD SMITH

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my friend and

constituent, the late Conrad Smith, and his contribution to both Arkansas and Missouri.

Conrad was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, the son of Arthur and Wilma Lee (Fullerton) Smith, and was the proud husband of Virginia Dell Hall, and the proud father of four children: Cathryn Orr, Art C. Smith, Julie Wideman, and Jeffery Smith.

He began preaching in the Missionary Baptist Church by age 15, and was later ordained and preached all over Arkansas.

In December 1978, he moved to House Springs, Missouri and became very active in Jefferson County, MO, community affairs. He was the minister for the Calvary Baptist Church in House Springs for almost 30 years, where he rarely missed a service, and even preached the week he died, this past June. He founded several businesses in the area, including R S Heating and Cooling, and was an auctioneer for over 20 years.

Former State Representative Harold Selby, for whom Conrad served as district coordinator, from 1999 to 2006, said that "Conrad did all the work to make other people look good."

Among the many other ways Conrad gave back to his community were by serving on the board of directors of Big River Ambulance District for almost 10 years; serving on the board of directors of Jefferson County 911 for 4 years; being a founding member and leader of the Highway MM-W Task Force for over 10 years.

Many will remember his work on the Highway Task Force. Conrad made it a mission in his life to make roads safer. He worked tirelessly with me, as his Representative in Congress on the Transportation Committee, and with others to obtain the needed funding to improve these roads for the entire community.

Conrad Smith was a leader in Jefferson County, and his legacy lives on in the hearts of his family, his community, and the people of the Highway MM-W Task Force. His legendary determination will continue to inspire us to carry on the work he started.

INTRODUCTION OF "RELIEF NOW ON THE ROAD TO RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2008"

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the "Relief Now on the Road to Renewable Energy Act of 2008."

I believe this bill will provide relief now from soaring gasoline prices and also accelerate our pace down the road to alternative energy and energy independence. Few things affect American consumers like high energy prices. Higher gas prices strain the budgets of America's working families, raise the cost of goods and services, increase harvest costs for America's farmers, and negatively impact the economy and the livelihood of working Americans.

According to the latest figures from the Department of Energy, the retail cost of a gallon of gasoline breaks down as follows:

53 percent—Crude Oil.

19 percent—Refining. (This component varies from region to region due to the different formulations required in different parts of the country.)

9 percent—Marketing and Distribution.

19 percent—taxes. (This component also varies depending upon whether States have also enacted sales tax on gasoline and whether local counties and cities have levied their own gasoline excise or sales tax.)

As you can see, the single biggest factor affecting the price of gasoline is the cost of a barrel of oil; oil which largely comes from politically unstable regions of the world, such as the Persian Gulf, Nigeria and Venezuela. Unfortunately, we find ourselves so heavily dependent upon these expensive sources of oil because decade after decade Congress has established legislative and regulatory roadblocks to prevent exploration for and refining of domestic supplies of oil and natural gas.

I believe it is time to invest more now into conservation and energy efficiency. My bill, for example, includes provisions that would increase alternative energy sources and diversify the energy grid with currently available alternative energy technologies. As a nation, we waste far too much energy with inefficient engines and machines. That is why my bill provides tax incentives for companies to produce fuel efficient vehicles. In fact, it provides a \$1,000 tax credit for individuals who purchase hybrid cars produced by American corporations. I believe that as we work with the market demand, these energy-efficient changes will work to stimulate domestic economic growth.

The fact of the matter is that wind and solar power cannot bring down the cost of the gasoline we need to power our cars, trucks, planes, trains, boats and power plants while we are developing greater efficiency. The cost of gasoline is a simple economic debate, oil supply and demand. We need more supply. The answer, I believe, is to end our dependence on expensive foreign oil by developing our own domestic supplies of oil and natural gas. My bill will open up new areas for oil and gas exploration.

For example, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) holds the single largest deposit of oil in the entire United States. Its 10.4 billion barrels of oil is more than double the proven reserves of the entire State of Texas and almost half of the total proven reserves in the U.S. (22 billion barrels). Had President Clinton not vetoed ANWR energy production in 1995, the United States could be getting nearly 1.5 million barrels of oil per day from the Arctic right now.

There are also vast oil and gas deposits along our coastlines that are completely off limits to development because of government interference. In fact, the Department of the Interior (DOI) conducted a comprehensive inventory of oil and natural gas resources located off our coastlines within the last 2 years. According to the Department of the Interior there is an estimated 8.5 billion barrels of known oil reserves and 29.3 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of known natural gas reserves along our coastlines; with 82 percent of the oil and 95 percent of the gas located in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM). However, even more importantly, the Department of the Interior estimates that there are untapped resources of about 86 billion barrels (51 percent in the Gulf of Mexico) and 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas (55 percent in the Gulf of Mexico) out there.

Similarly, the U.S. has been called the Saudi Arabia of oil shale. It has been estimated that oil shale deposits in Colorado,

Utah, and Wyoming hold the equivalent of as little as 1.8 trillion barrels of oil and potentially as much as 8 trillion barrels of oil. In comparison, Saudi Arabia reportedly holds proved reserves of 267 billion barrels. Unfortunately, oil shale is roughly equivalent to diesel fuel and a number of Clean Air Act regulations—such as low-sulfur diesel—and Federal motor fuel taxes, which favor gasoline over diesel fuels—have created a strong financial disincentive regarding the production and use of oil shale fuels. In addition, many of these deposits are on public land making it more bureaucratically complicated to exploit this resource. My bill provides a financial incentive for companies to invest in and produce more oil from oil shale.

Getting more domestic oil on the market is only half the solution. We haven't built a new refinery in this country in more than 25 years because the approval process for new refinery construction is estimated to require up to 800 different permits. While existing refineries have undergone significant expansion over the years, even as others have been shuttered, our aging refinery infrastructure leaves little margin for error. If we begin to produce more domestic crude oil we would need to turn it into home heating oil, gasoline, or diesel through the refining process. The ability to refine oil must keep pace with the demand for gasoline and diesel. My bill would expedite the construction of new refining capacity by streamlining the permitting process and opening up closed military bases for construction.

Clearly, developing new oil fields and refineries will take some time. In the interim my bill will help promote the switch to flexfuel and hybrid cars and trucks; extend important alternative energy tax credits; and provide individuals and truckers a vitally needed fuel price tax relief package. It also opens up land for the production of biofuel crops in order to provide relief from high food prices as a result of ethanol production.

Again, I believe in conservation, I believe in energy efficiency, and I believe in diversifying our energy supply by using wind, solar, coal-to-liquid technologies, ethanol and other renewable energy sources. But the fact of the matter is that oil and natural gas are still going to be a part of our energy mix for a long time to come and we must give our constituents some relief now.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS WATSON
MOSS, JR.

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, tomorrow would be the 83rd birthday of Thomas Watson Moss, Jr. However, Mr. Moss passed little more than 1 month short of starting his 83rd year. I rise today to offer my condolences and prayers to his family and share the story of a remarkable man. It is an honor to have this opportunity. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a member of the "Greatest Generation" and a unique and notable individual.

Thomas Moss was born in Forsyth County, Georgia, on July 18, 1925, and grew up in the midst of the Great Depression. Like many of his generation, he answered the call of his

country and proudly served in World War II after graduating from Gainesville High School and attending North Georgia College. During his service as a medic in the U.S. Navy, during which he was attached to the Marine Corps, he participated in some of the seminal battles in the Pacific theater, including the invasion of Okinawa. He received two Purple Hearts and a Presidential Military Citation for his exemplary service.

After returning from the Pacific, Mr. Moss joined the family business, Moss Equipment Company, in Buford, Georgia. In addition to his success in business, Mr. Moss was active throughout in his community and state. The dedication to his country and his value of serving others was clear through his time with the Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce, Buford Kiwanis Club and the Georgia Farm Equipment Dealers Association. He was one of the founding members of the Gwinnett County Fair Association, served in the Georgia legislature and on the Buford school board.

The tremendous impact he had on his community is incredible and indicative of his generation; where service, duty and honor were the guiding principles. Despite the demands on his time in business and civic activities, Mr. Moss was the pillar of his family and is survived by his wife of 58 years, Martha Smith Moss, two children, Mark and Lisa, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Tom and Martha's daughter Linda preceded Tom in death many years ago.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues and the American people will pause with me in recognition of a life well lived and learn from the example Mr. Moss set for his family, his community and his country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 503 on the Bishop Amendment to H.R. 415, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO
CLARIFY AUTHORITY OF SEC-
RETARY OF AGRICULTURE RE-
GARDING ADDITIONAL REC-
REATIONAL USES OF NATIONAL
FOREST SYSTEM LANDS SUB-
JECT TO SKI AREA PERMITS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to revise the 1986 law dealing with use of National Forests for ski areas in order to reflect current ways those areas are used and to provide clear authority for the Forest Service to allow additional recreational uses of those areas.

I have long thought it is in the national interest to encourage Americans to engage in outdoor recreational activities that can contribute

to their health and well-being, and that National Forest lands, including ski areas, can play a role by providing opportunities for such activities.

And my interest in the subject was heightened earlier this year when representatives of the National Ski Areas Association brought to my attention the fact that the National Forest Ski Areas Permit Act of 1986, which speaks only to "nordic and alpine skiing," does not reflect the full spectrum of snowsports for which ski areas are now used, and what they described as the absence of clear authority for the Forest Service to permit use of ski areas for other summer, seasonal, or year-round outdoor recreational activities and facilities in support of those activities.

To better understand the matter, I sent a letter asking the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and the Environment whether current law could be clearer on those points. Under Secretary Mark Rey replied that the 1986 legislation indeed did not address those matters and that, if requested, the USDA "would be happy to work with you to amend" the law to provide the Forest Service with clear authority regarding such activities and facilities.

I did request and receive technical suggestions from the Forest Service, and have considered their input as well as suggestions from the National Ski Areas Association and other interested parties in developing the bill I am introducing today.

The bill intentionally uses a number of terms and phrases based on the terminology of the Forest Service's regulations, manual, or other official documents because those terms and phrases are familiar not only to the Forest Service but also to permittees and others with an interest in the management of the National Forests. Thus, as used in the bill the term "developed recreation" means recreation that occurs at an area which has been improved or developed for that purpose—such as camping in constructed campgrounds or developed opportunities for off-highway-vehicle use as well as downhill skiing. Similarly, the term "natural-resource-based recreation" is intended to have the same meaning as when used in the Forest Service manual 2300 (Recreation, Wilderness, and Related Resource Management).

It also should be noted that the bill deals only with the 1986 National Forest Ski Areas Act, and would not in any way affect any other law applicable to management of the National Forests or any permits issued under any of those laws.

Ski area permits under the 1986 law do give their holders a priority with respect to commercial use of the lands subject to the permits, but they do not preclude general use of those lands by the public for compatible, non-commercial uses, and the bill would not change that. In fact, the bill does not affect the status, the duration, or any other provision of any permit already issued under the 1986 law, nor does it provide for any new permits. Instead, it makes clear that the Forest Service is authorized—but not required—to allow a current or future holder of a permit under the 1986 law to provide opportunities for additional developed recreational activities (and to place associated facilities) on the lands covered by that permit if the specified requirements are met and if the Forest Service decides it would appropriate for that to occur.

And it would not affect any existing or future permit related to use of lands that are not subject to ski area permits under the 1986 law or in any way reduce or otherwise modify the extent to which the Forest Service can allow any particular use on any of those lands outside ski areas.

Madam Speaker, this is a narrowly-targeted bill that I think can be valuable regarding an important aspect of the management of the National Forests and in facilitating the provision of additional opportunities for seasonal and year-round recreational activities on the parts of those lands that are subject to permits under the 1986 law. I think it deserves the approval of our colleagues, and for their reference I attach a more detailed outline of its provisions:

OUTLINE OF THE BILL

Section 1 sets forth findings regarding the basis for the legislation, and states its purpose. The findings note that it is in the national interest to provide, and encourage Americans to take advantage of, opportunities to engage in outdoor recreational activities that can contribute to their health and well-being; that National Forests, including those areas used for skiing, can provide such opportunities during all four seasons; that increased use of ski areas for that purpose can reduce impacts on other National Forest lands; and that it is in the national interest to revise the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act. The purpose is to amend that 1986 law so as to reflect that other snowsports, in addition to nordic and alpine skiing, occur at ski areas and to clarify the Forest Service's authority to permit additional appropriate seasonal or year-round recreational uses of lands subject to permits under that law.

Section 2 would amend the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986 in three ways:

(1) by replacing current language that refers only to "nordic and alpine skiing" with broader terminology to reflect that additional ski areas are also used for additional snowsports, such as snowboarding.

(2) by providing specific authority for the Forest Service to authorize the holder of a ski area permit under the 1986 law to provide additional recreational opportunities (and to have associated facilities) on lands covered by that permit. This authority is limited to activities and facilities that the Forest Service determines appropriate, that encourage outdoor recreation, and that harmonize to the natural environment to the extent practicable. The bill makes clear that the activities and facilities will be subject to such terms and conditions as the Forest Service determines appropriate. It also specifies that no activity or facility can be authorized if the agency determines that authorization would result in the primary recreational purpose of lands covered by a permit under the 1986 law would not be skiing or other snowsports.

(3) Finally, the bill would delete from the 1986 law obsolete language related to a deadline for conversion of previously-issued ski-area permits to permits under the 1986 law, while retaining the requirement that regulations be promulgated to implement that law—a requirement that will apply to the law as it would be amended by the bill.

Section 3 specifies that the bill will not affect any authority the Forest Service now has under laws other than the National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986, including authority

with respect to recreational activities or facilities.

OP-ED SUPPORTING EDUCATION ON CORONARY HEART DISEASE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce an Opinion Editorial from the Washington Afro-American News that reflects support for educating people of color on the symptoms and prevention of coronary heart disease.

The editorial which was published on July 5, 2008 is entitled; "Taking on the Attack: Lessons from Tim Russert's Death." The author of the Op-Ed, Honorable ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, recognizes the devastating reality of the disease. The fact is that heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women, killing more than 700,000 people a year.

The sudden death of NBC-TV's Tim Russert brings to light the importance of heart health. In the editorial, Congressman CUMMINGS states that "African-American adults are less likely to be diagnosed with coronary heart disease; however, we are more likely to die from it," emphasizing the disparities that exist among people of color. He advises to quit smoking, engage in regular exercise, reduce alcohol consumption, reduce stress and make healthy choices about the food that you eat in order to reduce the risk of heart disease.

Congressman ELIJAH CUMMINGS encourages everyone to attack the number one killer in the U.S. by living heart-healthy lives and to acknowledge that "everyday we wait to adopt a better lifestyle is another day we put ourselves at needless risk."

[From the Washington Afro-American News, July 5, 2008]

TAKING ON THE ATTACK: LESSONS FROM TIM RUSSERT'S DEATH

(By Elijah E. Cummings)

Shocked. Even this word fails to describe the reactions of people when they heard about the sudden end premature death of legendary NBC newsman Tim Russert.

On the day of his wake, hundreds of people lined up at St. Albans School in Washington, DC, to pay respect to a man whom they had never met, but whose death had caused a deep sense of loss in their lives. Because of Tim Russert, Sunday was not simply a day of worship and rest. As he would say, "If it's Sunday, it's 'Meet the Press.'"

He was a top television journalist, a best-selling author, a statesman in the world of politics and, more importantly to him, a proud husband, father and son.

By all accounts, Tim was as famous as one could get and, yet, he was an everyday man—someone to whom we all could relate. So, when the news spread of his death from a heart attack at age 58, middle-aged men across the country got scared. They hit the gym and passed up dessert.

Women grabbed measuring tape to wrap around their loved-one's waists while vowing to create healthier household diet and fitness regimes to bring those waist circumferences down to below 40 inches. (According to the American Heart Association, a waistline of more than 40 inches places a man at a high risk for heart disease.)

The fact is heart disease is the country's leading cause of death for men and women, killing more than 700,000 people a year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In the African-American community, the outlook is even more troubling. African-American adults are less likely to be diagnosed with coronary heart disease; however, we are more likely to die from it.

We also develop high blood pressure at an earlier age and, on average, our blood pressure readings are higher than those of other groups. In fact, the prevalence of hypertension in our communities is among the highest in the world.

Compared to White Americans, ages 45–65, the premature death rate from heart disease for Black men is twice as high. For Black women, it is three times as high.

The statistics are no better in Maryland, where African Americans make up less than 28 percent of the population, but we experience the highest rates of heart disease deaths in the state. According to the CDC, from 1996 to 2000, African Americans in Maryland had a heart disease death rate of 620 per 100,000, compared with 500 per 100,000 for Whites. In Baltimore City, African Americans are 15 percent more likely to die from heart disease than Whites.

There is good news. Although there are risk factors for heart disease beyond our control such as increasing age, gender and heredity, there are steps we can take to reduce the dangers of heart disease.

We must take better care of ourselves. We can quit smoking, engage in regular exercise, reduce our consumption of alcohol, reduce the stress in our lives and make healthy choices about the food that we eat.

We must educate ourselves. In the case of a heart attack, every second counts and we have done an excellent job of informing men of the signs and symptoms they may have when experiencing a heart attack (including chest pain, shortness of breath and discomfort in the arms).

We have neglected to similarly inform women of the symptoms that they are more likely to experience. Shortness of breath, nausea, vomiting and back or jaw pain are all common symptoms of heart attack in women, and far too many lives are lost because women—and, sadly, their health care providers—are unaware of these symptoms.

We must continue to challenge the disparities in health care that disproportionately threaten our communities. People of color have limited access to affordable, high-quality health care. When heart disease occurs, we are less likely to receive life-saving medical interventions like coronary angiography and coronary revascularization.

We continue to face the reality that too little research funding is being focused upon the health risks that threaten minority communities. These harsh facts of life are now publicly acknowledged by leaders in every political party. The critical test will be our willingness to allocate the public funding that is needed to eliminate race as a mortality factor in this country.

Last year, I was proud to join Mayor Sheila Dixon, Del. Shirley Nathan Pulliam and Baltimore City Health Commissioner Dr. Joshua Sharfstein in announcing an initiative to reduce cardiovascular disease and unacceptable health disparities in the Baltimore region.

This effort relies heavily on community input to help develop strategies to prevent suffering and save lives through public health efforts. The proposed strategies include launching a task force on reducing sodium intake; expanding community health worker programs; and developing partnerships with faith-based institutions.

We already have an effective smoking cessation program in place that offers free counseling and free nicotine patches and gum while supplies last. All you need to do is call 1-800-QUITNOW (1-800-784-8669) to get started. You can also find more information about the initiative and how you can become involved by visiting <http://www.baltimorehealth.org/disparities.htm>.

We all have the power to attack the number one killer in the United States and live heart-healthy lives. But everyday that we wait to adopt a better lifestyle is another day we put ourselves at needless risk.

HONORING NELSON MANDELA ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1090 honoring Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela as he celebrates 90 years of life.

Mr. Mandela was born on July 18, 1918, in Transkei, South Africa, where he was given the name Rolihlahla, meaning "troublemaker," which would later seem so fitting. Throughout his early adulthood, he developed his own ideas about the oppression he had experienced which led him to join the African National Congress. His work with the ANC led him to be tried for treason. He was acquitted of the charges, but his strong opposition to South African apartheid continued.

His fight against racial segregation came to a sudden halt when he was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for allegedly plotting to overthrow the South African government.

However, 27 years in prison could not diminish the spirit of a great leader. Once released from prison, Mr. Mandela wasted no time in becoming involved with the ANC once again. It was no surprise that this revolutionary man would become the next President of the ANC in 1990, continuing to devote himself to a multi-racial democracy for his country.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Mandela embodies the dignity, strength, and leadership that all of us should strive for. Our country was founded on the values of freedom and liberty for all, personified undoubtedly by Mr. Mandela. He grasped these ideals and fought to make them a reality for South Africa through commitment unsurpassed by others. The dedication Mr. Mandela displayed, despite the many challenges he encountered, is deserving of our highest respect.

Mr. Mandela has undisputedly contributed to tremendous change with his efforts to peacefully resolve conflicts throughout the world. It is with great pleasure that I commend Mr. Mandela for his lifetime commitment to promoting the vision of freedom and equality for the people of South Africa.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE LIONEL VAN DEERLIN

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor our former colleague, and my good friend, the Honorable Lionel Van Deerlin of California. He passed away on May 17th in his San Diego home at the age of 93.

Everybody referred to him as "Van." He served in this House from 1963 until 1981, and was a friend and colleague of mine on the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. Throughout his career he maintained a marvelous wit and a generous spirit. He was a warm and gentle man.

After his defeat, Van went back to the newspaper business he loved, writing columns for the San Diego Tribune and then the Union-Tribune. In one recent column he decried the bitter partisanship of today's Congress, saying "Twenty-five years ago in Congress you not only trusted the opposing party, you enjoyed their company. Today, they hardly even speak."

During his last 4 years of service, from 1976–80, he was the Chairman of the Communications Subcommittee. It was a tumultuous time to preside over that important panel. The Justice Department had filed an antitrust suit against the then-integrated AT&T, and sought to divest the company of its manufacturing subsidiary, known then as Western Electric. In response to the Justice Department's lawsuit, AT&T's supporters in the Congress introduced the "Consumer Communications Reform Act," which would have ratified AT&T's status as a monopoly.

All of this fell into Van's lap when he became Chairman of the Subcommittee. At the time, competition in communications was in its infancy. Competitive suppliers of telephone equipment were beginning to spring up. But competition in long distance was still a novelty. Van knew that if the Congress ratified AT&T's monopoly, consumers would have lost an opportunity to shop around and obtain equipment and service for less. So he came up with a plan to forestall the legislation (which was extremely popular) to educate his Subcommittee while giving the competitors an opportunity to gain a foothold in the marketplace.

Van announced his intention to draft a "basement to attic" re-write of the Communications Act of 1934. And he proceeded to do just that. In 1978 he introduced H.R. 13015, the "Communications Act of 1978." Although the bill was never approved by the Subcommittee, he compiled an impressive hearing record and began to build the consensus that competition in communications was good for consumers.

The following year he introduced H.R. 3333, another attempt to re-write the Communications Act. Again, the bill was not reported by the Subcommittee; however Van's untiring efforts expanded both the record and the emerging consensus. And in 1980, the year of his defeat, he introduced H.R. 6121, which was approved by both the Subcommittee and the full Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

In 1980, Van was defeated for re-election. In his concession speech he again dem-

onstrated his wry wit and sage perspective, saying "Having been elected by the people in this district for nine consecutive elections, it would hardly be appropriate to say that they've taken leave of their senses this time." And so ended the career of a remarkable public servant.

But the efforts that he put in motion did not end there. Building on the hearing record that Van compiled, and the growing consensus that competition should govern the delivery of communications products and services, Congress continued its effort to update the Communications Act of 1934. In 1982 those efforts were interrupted by the Justice Department's announcement that it had settled the AT&T litigation. That settlement resulted in the 1984 divestiture of the Bell Operating Companies, and established the industry structure that persisted for the next 15 years.

In 1993 the House revived its efforts to update the 1934 Act, and in June of 1994, by a vote of 423–5, passed H.R. 3626. While the Senate did not complete action on its bill, efforts to update the law commenced anew in 1995. The result was the enactment of the landmark "Telecommunications Act of 1996" the following year.

Those of us who had been involved in these efforts from the beginning recognized that we were building upon the foundation that Van had laid back in 1977 and 1978. He was the visionary that realized that the days of AT&T's monopoly had to end, and he was the one who began the effort to build a consensus in favor of competition.

Early in 1996, the White House contacted my office to see who should be invited to attend the signing ceremony for the "Telecommunications Act of 1996." I suggested that they invite Lionel Van Deerlin, the man who got the ball rolling nearly 20 years before. And so in February, 1996, I entered the Library of Congress to witness the President signing this important new law. And there was Van, my old friend and colleague; smiling as always.

That was the last time that I saw Van. After his defeat I missed his cool-headed leadership and ready wit. It was great to see him that day, and I was glad that he lived to see his efforts come to fruition with the enactment of the new statute. This body has lost a good and decent colleague, who made valuable contributions that extended well beyond his years of service. And I have lost an old and dear friend, whom I will miss. We were better for his presence.

I am inserting for the RECORD the eulogy of former Representative Lynn Schenk.

The following is the text of the Eulogy for Rep. Lionel Van Deerlin, delivered by his friend of 30 years, the Hon. Lynn Schenk, on the occasion of his Memorial and Celebration of Life at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, San Diego, California, at noon, on Saturday, June 14, 2008:

I have been given the high honor of speaking to you today about a most extraordinary man—Lionel Van Deerlin—our dear Van. I thank the Van Deerlin family, his children and grandchildren for this special privilege.

Van's "life journey" was marked by so much accomplishment that it would take hours to recount—I will do my best to touch on the highlights.

This man, with a giant heart, who looked at life through the softening lens of humor, has brought us together today, but he would not want us to mourn him. Instead he would

want us to celebrate his life and enjoy one another's company.

As I share a few reflections, it is OK if you want to tune me out and remember your own "Van" stories—there are so many!

On May 17, the Nation lost a great American, a family lost a cherished patriarch and we lost a dear friend.

Van died peacefully—just as he lived every day of his long and celebrated life—surrounded by family and friends. And just like Van, he closed his eyes for the last time only after finishing his column for the SD union tribune.

Van was born in L.A., a true native son of California. He went to public school in Oceanside and graduated from USC, where he was editor of the daily Trojan, something for which this Bruin long ago forgave him.

He began his civilian career in journalism in Baltimore and Minneapolis, where he met the love of his long life, Mary Jo. They eloped to a marriage that lasted 67 years ending only with Mary Jo's passing last October.

During WWII, Van served in the Army where he was on the staff of "Stars and Stripes". After the war, the Van Deerlins returned to San Diego to raise their family, Jimmy, John, Victoria, Elizabeth, Susan and Jeff.

Van joined the SD Sun and became the city editor of the SD Journal, a paper founded by Clint McKinnon, the first Democrat to be elected to Congress from SD.

Van loved the job, but the siren call of TV was too much to resist.

He used to tell a hysterical story about those early TV days. The TV studio was in Tijuana. Then, as now, economics drove the medium. So on weekends the inside studio was used to tape commercials while the live news was broadcast from a parking lot outside. A picture backdrop of sunny SD was used to hide the cars and trucks in the lot.

One evening it began to rain, drops were rolling off Van's forehead and the backdrop swayed in the wind, while the lead cameraman was in a fistfight with the director! Undeterred Van carried on like the trooper he was, that is, until a wet cat threatened to jump into his lap!

The versatile newsman credited his exposure on TV for his first election victory, becoming the second Democrat from the then very Republican SD area to be elected to the U.S. Congress.

Van was reelected 9 times. By the time I met Van, more than 30 years ago, he was a high ranking member of the majority party. I was in awe, but with his ready smile and corny jokes he immediately put me at ease. I am certain many of you here had similar first meeting with this "king of the one liners!"

I have many memories of Van and Mary Jo, but one of the earliest is also one of my fondest. In the mid 70's as a White House fellow, I had access to the presidential box at the Kennedy Center, but only on a last minute basis when no one really important wanted it. One late afternoon I got the word the box was mine for that evening. I don't know what possessed me to call Congressman Van Deerlin to invite him and his wife, because surely he would decline.

But he didn't! He accepted with glee.

As we stepped from the anteroom into the box he was more excited than I!!

As you would expect, all heads turned to see who was occupying the presidential box. Not wanting to disappoint, Van proceeded to the rail and in his best royal nod and wave acknowledged the crowd! With his patrician looks, they all must have thought he was a visiting king or at least a prince!

Van served on the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and

chaired its communications subcommittee. According to his friend and colleague, Cong. John Dingell, it was a tumultuous time, but Van maintained his marvelous wit and generous spirit.

Competition in communications, especially long distance, was in its birthing stages. The Justice Dept, ATT and potential competitors were in heated battle.

All this fell into Van's lap. He announced his intention to draft a "basement to attic" rewrite of the communications act of 1934. And that he did, compiling a comprehensive record to show that competition in Communications was good for consumers.

It was Van's work that provided the foundation for the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Again, according to Cong. Dingell, Van was the visionary who realized that ATT's monopoly had to end.

The committee was renamed Energy and Commerce and John Dingell is the long time chairman. John Dingell sends his deepest sympathies to Van's family.

He said into the Congressional Record "this body has lost a good and decent colleague who made valuable contributions that extended well beyond his years of service. And I have lost an old and dear friend, whom I will miss. We were better for his presence."

I had the privilege of sitting in the Van Deerlin seat for a brief period, and on his subcommittee.

His cool headed leadership and ready wit were much remembered. One day during a contentious hearing, the doors opened and in slipped two gentlemen. I recognized Van immediately and slipped a note to the subcommittee chairman, Ed Markey who along with Al Gore, was a protege of Van's. Ed halted the proceedings to introduce Van and the room literally erupted in a standing ovation.

He tried to stop this spontaneous outpouring so he could introduce the gentleman with him who he also wanted acknowledged in this manner, former Republican Congressman Bob Wilson!

How utterly Van!

While there was never a doubt that Van was a staunch democrat, he was a gentleman who treated friend and foe, ally and opponent with dignity and respect. His campaigns were dignified and there was decency in everything he did. As his son Jeff said, "Van was a sweet and decent man".

The contentious and vitriolic political scene today was a source of consternation for him. Not too long ago, Van famously said, "twenty five years ago in Congress you not only trusted the opposing party, you enjoyed their company. Today, they hardly speak!"

Van accomplished so much for San Diego during his years in Congress. He was simply one of the most productive Members ever to represent this area. He authored the appropriation to pay for a second border crossing at Otay Mesa, this, before there was wide spread appreciation of the importance of cross border cooperation.

He used his position in the majority to help his SD colleague in the minority, Republican Bob Wilson, in Bob's signal support for the Navy and Marines, including funding for the Naval Hospital in Balboa Park.

Van and Bob worked together to promote work for SD's shipbuilding and repair industry.

And Van fought long and hard for the appropriation for the Veteran's Hospital in La Jolla. His insight and involvement extended to where it should be located and by whom it should be designed.

In fact, if the right people are listening, I suggest that the VA Hospital be named for Lionel Van Deerlin!!

During his 18 years in the House, Van's accomplishments were so far reaching that we

still benefit from them today both here in SD and nationally.

He was a nature lover and a sportsman with only binoculars in his holster.

Because of his love of nature, he was an ardent environmentalist. Van, ahead of his time, successfully pushed for revisions to Federal law allowing California to set tougher emission standards than the rest of the Nation.

In 1975, Van politely, but firmly, shall we say "encouraged" the Navy to restore Imperial Beach's vanishing sand, which it did.

With an assist from the young Congressman Al Gore sitting next to him, Van helped create C-Span, which had been resisted for years by his colleagues.

Van was a "Carrie Nation" about congressional ethics! He voluntarily disclosed his and Mary Jo's personal finances—a first in Congress, and sought the expulsion of Adam Clayton Powell from Congress for ethical violations. That took courage and character, something Van had in abundance!!

The face of Public Broadcasting was sculpted by Van. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting might not—no, would not—exist today were it not for Lionel Van Deerlin!

But it wasn't all work and no play during those DC days—for example, Van moonlighted as the manager for his staff's softball team. He selectively challenged the only Capitol Hill team to have never won a game—Congressman Charlie Wilson's team. Suffice it to say that Mr. Wilson's team finished the season with one victory.

Undaunted, Van cannily next challenged the diplomats and staff of the Irish Embassy, knowing full well that softball is not played in Ireland. (Pause) the Embassy of Ireland finished the season undefeated one-zip!

Even in electoral defeat, Van maintained his humor and perspective. After losing his reelection bid in 1980, he said "having been elected by the people in this district for nine consecutive elections, it would hardly be appropriate to say that they've taken leave of their senses this time".

There are so many stories from the rich, full and well lived life of Lionel Van Deerlin. Each of you I'm certain could fill hours telling Van stories.

John Martin, the former ABC News correspondent, talks about how Van's role in getting him an overseas assignment was "a turning point in his life."

John says, "Van was gracious, smart, looking out for the little guy and funny, just the combination we need in public life".

The person Van considered his fourth son, Rudy Murillo, Van's dear friend Paul Peterson and my husband, Hugh Friedman would, for the past decade, meet regularly for lunch. Van filled the table with his joyful presence, as he surgically dissected the events and issues of the day with his wit and insight. For Paul, Rudy and Hugh, that fourth chair will be hugely empty now.

His colleagues in the media will miss him enormously.

As we know, after Congress, Van returned to his first professional love, journalism. For a couple of generations of SD news people, Van was both a matchless source and quite often a friend in need. He relished doing his column, he loved journalism and journalists.

The Washington Post editorialized after Van's death "a happy warrior as both a Congressman and columnist, his column reflected the man. A lively, engaging writer, he left no doubt about his liberal views, but he relied on his quick wit, a firm grasp of the issues and a lifetime's store of anecdotes to provoke and persuade."

So true.

Van was also an educator, teaching communications classes at SDSU (where there is

a chair named for him). His students felt blessed to have had the benefit of his wisdom.

He was a mentor to so many younger Democrats, cheering us up when we lost, and cheering us on when we won. We will always cherish his concern, his generosity and his support.

Personally, I will always remember his standing by my side, wearing his biggest grin, as I announced my own candidacy for Congress.

Although he lived life long and full in nearly 94 years, those of us who knew him are still greedy for more of this remarkable man and his life partner, Mary Jo.

But we must be content with the legacy he has bequeathed to us. By his work in Congress, through his leadership, his teaching and writing, and by the example of how he lived his life, he has taught us many lessons. He taught us the importance of giving of yourself to your fellow citizens, he taught us that working together we can accomplish much, he taught us to delight in shared achievement and not be concerned with who gets credit. He showed us how to be upbeat, positive, and happy. He taught us that politics can be fun, that losing is not failure, an opponent is not the enemy.

He taught us to treat everyone respectfully. He taught us about dignity and decency, and the sweetness of life as it should be lived, with enthusiasm, zest and verve—filling every moment to the fullest. He taught us to believe as he did, in the innate goodness of humanity.

He taught us to be loyal to our friends and to love our families as he so unconditionally loved his.

Lionel Van Deerlin—a man of character, integrity, and humility. Van—classy, enthusiastic, fun.

We should celebrate him the way he would want us to, with happiness and joy in having had this sweet and decent man in our lives.

Yes, we will miss the twinkle in his eyes, his witty tweaking of the high and mighty. Yes, we will miss his friendship and his presence, but we can best honor this consummate man of good will by embracing the lessons he taught us.

He left us with an ineffable sense of optimism and hope, so let there be no sadness, because surely he is with his beloved Mary Jo whistling an old tune and telling her a corny joke.

INCLUDE FIREFIGHTERS IN THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that would correct a longstanding disparity between professional firefighters who are employed by States, counties, or municipalities and Federal firefighters.

In 1985, Congress amended the Fair Labor Standards Act so that firefighters around the country could engage in a practice called "trade time." Trade time allows two firefighters, solely at their option and with the approval of their supervisor, to switch shifts without affecting the pay rate of either firefighter.

The Congress made this change because firefighters work uncommon schedules involving 24 hour shifts and 72 hour work weeks, followed by a period of time away from the firehouse. Trade time enables firefighters to meet personal obligations such as attending a child's birthday or assisting a sick family member without exhausting their annual leave. It also ensures that firehouses across the county can maintain staffing requirements and keep our communities safe.

Federal firefighters are not covered under the Fair Labor Standards Act and therefore have been ineligible for trade time. The legislation I am introducing today amends Federal employee labor law to fix this problem.

Federal firefighters work side-by-side with their non-federal colleagues, so this is fundamentally an issue of equity. It will also help Federal agencies recruit and retain firefighters. Just like other firefighters, Federal firefighters risk their lives on a daily basis. They also accept the irregular hours that their jobs require. This legislation merely gives them some modest flexibility to balance that irregularity and meet their family obligations.

I hope my colleagues will support this simple but overdue legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th Anniversary of the Special Olympics.

When the Special Olympics was founded in 1968, individuals with developmental disabilities were all too often separated from their families and segregated from their communities.

My aunt, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, was able to see the potential of individuals with intellectual disabilities through her sister, and my aunt, Rosemary.

She was confident in her, and other disabled individuals', ability to participate in a meaningful way in their communities.

By using sport as a vehicle and stage for demonstrating the dignity and capability of people with intellectual disabilities, Mrs. Shriver recognized the impact not only on the athletes themselves, but on the Nation.

Today, the Special Olympics serves more than 2.5 million athletes in 180 countries around the world.

Yet, the benefit of the Special Olympics to athletes, families, volunteers, and coaches cannot be adequately measured by statistics and numbers.

It can be best represented by the recognition of the potential of individuals with intellectual disabilities by our society.

Congratulations to the Special Olympics on almost 40 years of extraordinary service.

EXPAND THE ROLE OF THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IN CHESAPEAKE BAY CLEANUP

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that would expand the Army Corps of Engineers' role in Chesapeake Bay cleanup—a mission they first took on in 1996. The legislation would provide the Corps with continuing authority to engage in this work; expand the Corps' work to all six States in the Bay watershed and the District of Columbia; and provide flexibility for the Corps to work with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and other not-for-profit groups engaged in Bay cleanup.

Next year, the Congress will move to enact a full reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act for the first time since 2000. This represents an opportunity to turn the tide in Bay cleanup efforts so future generations can continue to enjoy the cultural, historic, and recreational benefits of the Bay and so it can continue to be an economic driver for the Mid-Atlantic region. This year, we have laid the groundwork for great progress in achieving this goal by securing substantial resources in the Farm Bill for agricultural-based Bay restoration. This measure serves to provide the water-resources complement to that effort.

The Chesapeake Bay Environmental Restoration and Protection Program, which was established in section 510 of WRDA 1996, authorizes the Army Corps of Engineers to provide design and construction assistance to State and local authorities in the environmental restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. These projects range from shoreline buffers to oyster reef construction. As it is currently structured however, the program has been limited in its scope for several reasons. First, the Corps' restoration efforts have been limited to Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, which has precluded a comprehensive, watershed-wide plan that adequately prioritizes projects. Second, unlike all other major Federal agencies engaged in Bay restoration, the Corps has no small watershed grants program that engages State and local governments in small scale restoration projects. This is compounded by the Corps' intricate procurement processes. Finally, the matching fund requirements of the section 510 program do not allow for the use of in-kind services or contributions, which stifles collaboration. The Chesapeake Bay Commission, a multi-State legislative assembly dedicated to the restoration of the Bay, recognizing these deficiencies has recommended several improvements to the program that are the basis for this legislation. The bill would address the issues I have previously mentioned and strengthen the section 510 program so that the Army Corps of Engineers can continue to be a strong partner in Chesapeake Bay cleanup.

I hope my colleagues will support this legislation through the WRDA process.